



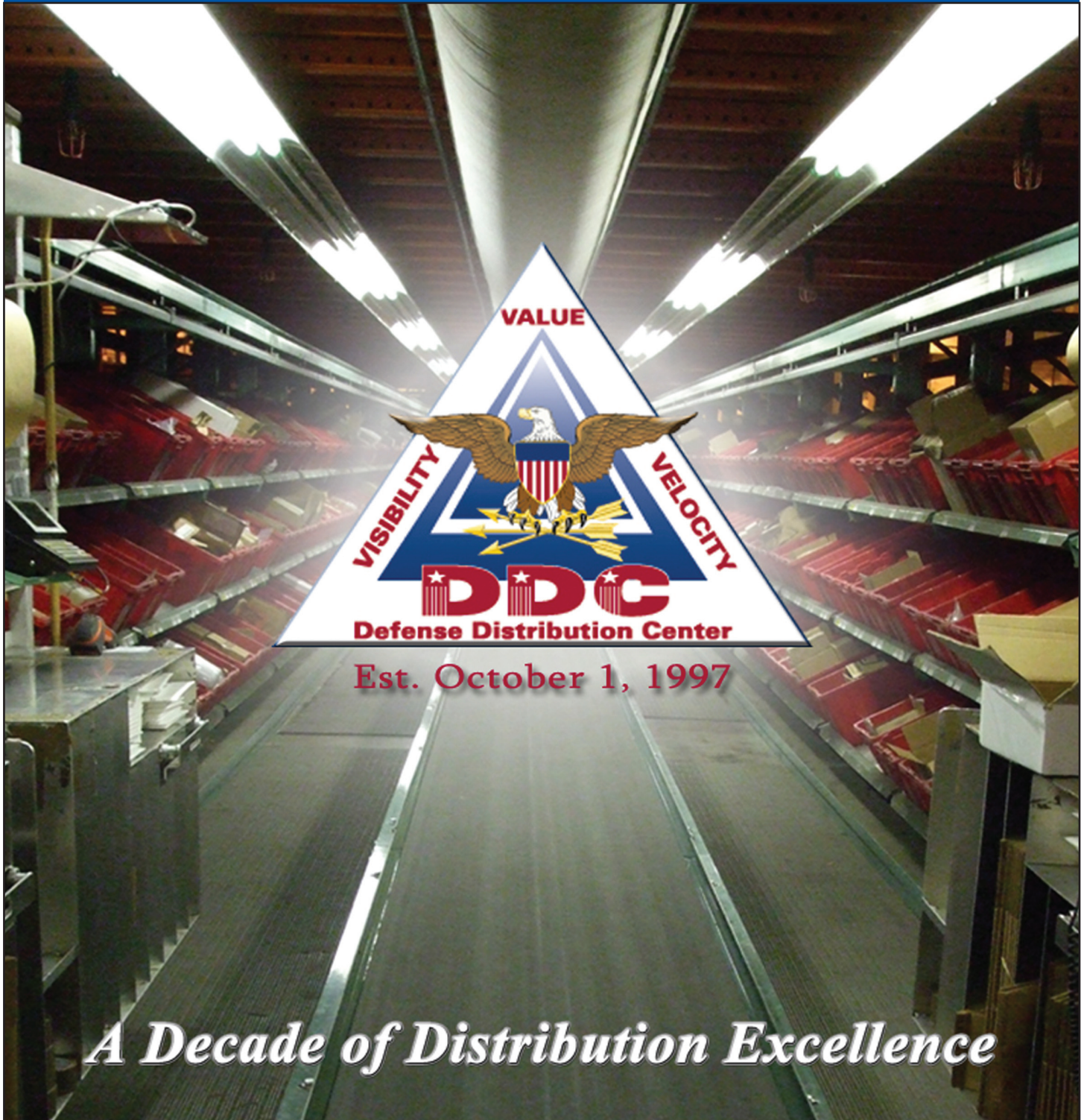
DDC *Review*



Vol. 10, No. 4

Defense Distribution Center, New Cumberland, PA

Winter 2008



A Decade of Distribution Excellence

One the cover:

The Defense Distribution Center, established in 1997, celebrated 10 years of support to the men and women of America's Armed Forces Oct. 1. Established through the consolidation of two regional distribution commands – Defense Distribution Regions East and West – the formation of DDC created a unified network responsible for the distribution of military supplies.

Pictured is the “Walk and Pick” area of the Eastern Distribution Center, the largest distribution operation in the Department of Defense and the cornerstone of operations at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa.

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DDC Review

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DDC Commander's Column

By BG Lynn Collyar, United States Army

A new year is always an appropriate point to mark new beginnings, and that is certainly true at the Defense Distribution Center. The coming year is full of promise as DDC adopts a new vision and welcomes a new leader to fill our top civilian position.

In March, DDC Deputy Commander Twila Gonzales, Senior Executive Service, will trade positions with Paul Peters, Senior Executive Service. Paul is currently the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) – the materiel disposal arm of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

Twila has been a tremendous asset to DDC since the organization was formed, having directed our efforts related to A-76 and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) prior to assuming her current role as Deputy Commander. Throughout her career, she has led with compassion, integrity, and heart. A strong advocate for workforce development, she played a vital role in DDC's leader development initiatives. Twila is truly a DDC treasure, and she will be missed.

Her replacement, Paul Peters, comes to DDC with extensive experience in numerous business areas within the Federal government. With knowledge and skill of this magnitude, he is sure to be a very valuable resource to DDC.

In 2008, DDC will also adopt a new vision: To be the single distribution services provider for DOD ... anywhere in the world, under any condition.

The environment has changed in the 10 years since DDC was formed, and we must adapt in order to continue providing the level of support America's Warfighters deserve.

The readiness of today's American military is dependant on enhancing our performance in four main areas: Speed, Reliability, Visibility, and Efficiency. A focus on each of these must be incorporated into our day-to-day operations as well as the decisions we make for the future. Our Warfighters depend on us for their supplies. We will strive to continually meet their priorities and their expectations, and we will do so at the best possible value. That is our role in the DOD supply chain.

To achieve this, confidence is key. They must have

confidence in us. They must be able to trust us – to trust that we will get them what they need when they need it. Not too early, certainly not late, but exactly when they need it. This is nothing new to you – the 7,822 employees who work at DDC sites all around the world. What is new, however, is that we're taking our commitment one step further. We've been doing a great job, and now it's time to focus on doing it even better. What does it take to be the best defense storage and distribution organization in the world? To be a key link in the DOD supply chain? It takes everyone pitching in to do their part in making it happen.

Whether you're the person working in the distribution center who gets the supplies out to the Warfighter – or the person who makes sure materiel is in the proper location so it can be processed ASAP – or the safety officer who helps protect employees – or the leader who inspires your team – or the staff that supports the distribution center – you are a key link. Without your contribution, we wouldn't be nearly as strong.

The past year brought us numerous opportunities to prove our expert level distribution capabilities from within DLA and all across the

Department of Defense as well as other Federal agencies. Our input on Combatant Command (COCOM) distribution assessments has been critical to moving logistics processes and efficiencies forward all over the world. Furthermore, we continue to partner with the Services and other agencies like the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) on projects that optimize the movement of materiel within the government.

This year promises to be full of potential as we move forward with our work in support of America's Warfighters. There will always be more we can do, and more we can do better.

I hope you realize just how critical you are, and how much your efforts are appreciated. Without you, DDC wouldn't be able to boast such stellar successes. So, in 2008, as we begin our second decade of distribution excellence, let's do it again – and let's do it even better. Let's truly be the STONGEST link in the supply chain!



7 DDJC aids SoCal fire relief efforts



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36 Security Specialist returns from Balad

DDC celebrates a decade of distribution excellence

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center, established in 1997, celebrated 10 years of support to the men and women of America's Armed Forces Oct. 1.

Established by combining two regional distribution commands, the formation of DDC created a unified, responsive single network responsible for the distribution of military supplies.

Since DDC's stand up, it has issued billions of supplies to America's war fighters including more than 20 million orders for materiel in support of the Global War on Terror.

Those who benefit from DDC's services, however, are not limited solely to America's military. Over the past decade, DDC has also been called upon to provide distribution support during humanitarian missions resulting from

hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, and other disasters.

As the distribution industry has evolved, DDC has remained on the cutting edge of technological advancement. DDC's own warehouse and transportation management system, the Distribution Standard System, has been essential in ensuring the availability of critical information across the distribution network.

Additionally, DDC has been a pioneer in the use of radio frequency identification technology and other systems used to track cargo throughout the supply chain. DDC is also a partner in the research of alternative fuels to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil.

The military's needs have changed in the last 10 years, and DDC has kept pace, offering additional customized services,



creating a deployable distribution center capable of responding to distribution needs anywhere in the world, and opening additional overseas distribution centers in Kuwait, Italy, Korea, and Guam.

“The past 10 years have shown the Defense Distribution Center’s ability to adapt to changing war fighter needs. As we look forward to the next 10 years, we will continue to have opportunities to position ourselves to provide world-class support to our customers,” said DDC Commander Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar during an address to DDC headquarters staff at a recent celebration of the organization’s 10-year anniversary.

“If there is a way to provide additional services to our customers or a way to save them money, then we need to pursue it,” added Collyar.

Throughout DDC’s history, the organization has remained focused on delivering best value, world-class combat support to America’s military, providing a safe and healthy work environment for employees, and acting as responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars and the environment.

Today, DDC operates 26 distribution centers around the world including two strategic distribution platforms as well as nine map support offices.

DDC Commander announces realignment of headquarters functions

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Defense Distribution Center Commander Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar announced the results of a study to realign the organization during a recent Town Hall meeting with headquarters employees.

According to Collyar, the new structure positions DDC to provide more responsive, agile, forward-focused support to America’s war fighters.

Collyar assembled a team of employees

from various directorates within DDC to conduct a study of the organization’s structure in 2007.

“The team took a look at our structure and processes and found instances of duplication of work and other functions that need to be reformed,” said Collyar.

Collyar accepted the team’s recommended restructuring plan in August 2007.

The team’s recommendations include transforming the current J-3/4 Logistics Operations Directorate and realigning the Distribution Re-engineering directorate. Many of the functions from the Distribution Re-engineering area will be absorbed into other areas in the organization.

Components of Logistics Operations will be combined with Strategic Plans to form a new J-4/5 (Planning and Supply Chain Integration) directorate while the remaining functions will be split into two separate organizations: J-3 (Distribution Operations) and the Directorate of Distribution Support.

Additional changes include establishing a Command Support Office and rearranging the reporting structure of some sections of the Command Staff such as Military Personnel and the Transformation Office.

According to Collyar, the new structure enables DDC to be a more responsive organization by eliminating the need for employees to navigate multiple layers of management to reach decisions.

“In today’s fast-paced climate, it’s critical that combat support organizations like DDC are properly positioned to adapt and respond quickly to the ever-changing demands of our customers,” Collyar said.

He added, “We owe the best support to the war fighter and to the taxpayer at the best value.”

A cost savings of more than \$17 million is expected during the first year after the new structure is implemented.

The changes to the organization are expected to reduce the number of DDC headquarters positions to 410 which will result in a reduction of 49 positions currently filled.

“It’s important to remember that we’re removing the positions – not the people,” emphasized Collyar.

During the Town Hall, Collyar reassured the workforce that a reduction in force, or RIF, was not anticipated.

Instead, to reach the lower workforce number, DDC opened a targeted window for employees wishing to accept a voluntary early retirement or separation incentive, or VERA/VSIP.

Collyar emphasized that employees who are moving to new directorates will be afforded ample opportunity to provide their input and to receive any necessary training.

“We want to grow and develop our workforce, and we will work with everyone to make sure we match the right people with the right jobs. We want them to excel,” he said.

In the decade since it was established, DDC has consistently evolved to meet the changing needs of America’s military and the Department of Defense supply chain.

Warner Robins distribution facility transitions to government workforce

DDWG prepares to become DDC’s third strategic distribution platform

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center transitioned the distribution support functions at Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga., or DDWG, from a contractor-operated work force to a federal employee operation Dec 1. This transition marks the beginning of a multi-phase approach to transform DDWG into DDC’s third strategic distribution platform.

“The BRAC 2005 mandate requires that DDWG and another DDC distribution center, the Defense Distribution Depot Oklahoma City, Okla., expand their services to include a strategic distribution capability,” said DDWG’s current Director, Bob King, “This is the beginning of DDWG’s expansion.”

Establishing DDWG as an SDP will improve the mobilization, deployment and sustainment of combatant forces deployed worldwide, but specifically to DOD customers located in the Southeastern U.S. DDC expects DDWG to be fully functioning as an SDP in 2011. "This is part of the Department of Defense's efforts to maximize war fighting capability and efficiency through the Base Realignment and Closure process," said King.

SDPs are designed for flexibility, national security, continuity of operations, and to effectively respond to war mobilization, national emergencies, and natural disasters.

DDWG's SDP will be equipped with state-of-the-art consolidation, containerization, and palletization capabilities, called CCP, or Containerization Consolidation Point. Construction of the new \$28 million CCP is slated to begin in summer 2008 and be completed in 2010.

Hiring for DDWG's government positions began in June and will continue with the standup of the new missions and workload until the initial 319 authorized positions are filled. "People are essential to the success of this transformation; DDC and DDWG have a structured approach for managing the transition," said King.

Support to the Defense Logistics Agency's Warner Robins customers, and ultimately to the war fighter, will continue uninterrupted as the Department of Defense achieves efficiencies that enhance logistics support to our joint forces. Currently, DDWG provides physical distribution support for materiel located at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center. DDWG's worldwide support includes providing customers in all U.S. armed forces with parts and equipment for F-15, C-130, C-5 and C-17 aircraft, target acquisition systems, and most airborne electronic warfare systems, and aircraft avionics used by all DOD services and some federal agencies.

DDWG's biggest customers are the 402nd Maintenance Wing, the Joint Stars E-8 Aircraft Wing, 116th/5th Combat

Communication, and the KC-135 Aircraft Group located at Robins AFB, as well as major Air Force bases worldwide.

As part of the DLA vision of forward presence, DDWG now provides direct support to the newly-appointed commander, DLA Warner Robins. This new concept of DLA forward means that there is now truly one DLA face to the local customers. The relationship has proven to be a great model that will be used throughout the DLA enterprise. "It has been beneficial to DDWG transition, as we have together gotten much closer to our customer's operations and needs," said King.

DDC currently manages two SDPs located in Pennsylvania and California, which support DLA distribution centers throughout the world.

Gonzales named as DRMS Director, Peters named as DDC Deputy Commander

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Defense Logistics Agency Director Army Lt. Gen. Robert Dail announced Dec. 19 that senior executives Twila Gonzales and Paul Peters will exchange positions in March 2008.

Gonzales will become the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service in Battle Creek, Mich., while Peters will assume the role of Deputy Commander of the Defense Distribution Center in New Cumberland, Pa.

Gonzales has served as DDC's Deputy Commander since March 2007. She has been a member of the DDC team since the organization's inception in 1997. Gonzales led DDC's A-76 Program Office until 2005 when she became the director of Distribution Re-engineering.

Gonzales was inducted into the Senior Executive Service in June 2006. She has also been a long-time proponent of leadership and workforce development.

In an email message to DDC employees Dec. 19, she expressed her gratitude to the workforce. "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here in New Cumberland and working with such a first-class group of logisticians," she wrote. "I have learned much from each and every one of you and have great confidence you will support Mr. Peters with the same high degree of excellence as you have shown me."

Gonzales' message also lauded Peters' ability to serve as DDC's second in command. "Mr. Peters brings with him a wealth of experience and will help lead the DDC to higher levels of achievement and help carry the Director's vision for extending the enterprise – continuing to provide outstanding war fighter support."

Peters has served as the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service since February 2006, overseeing more than 100 disposal sites worldwide and five Demilitarization Centers. Peters has also served as the program manager for DLA Business Systems Modernization. With more than 20 years of federal service, he has also held positions with the Navy and Air Force, among others.



In March 2008, Defense Distribution Center Deputy Commander Twila Gonzales, Senior Executive Service, above, will become the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service in Battle Creek, Mich., while Senior Executive Paul Peters of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service will assume the role of Deputy Commander of the Defense Distribution Center in New Cumberland, Pa.

DDJC supplies MREs to those in need in Southern California

By Annette Silva, DDJC Public Affairs

In the heat of the Southern California wildfires, Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif., was called to action to coordinate shipping meals-ready-to-eat, or MREs, to the displaced residents of San Diego taking shelter at Qualcomm Stadium and to the Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

DDJC, along with the Federal Emergency Management Association, Office of Emergency Services, the California Highway Patrol, and the Defense Distribution Center, worked together to get the shipments of MREs delivered to those in need.

On Oct. 23, FEMA requested 3,552 cases of MREs totaling 42,624 meals. The California Highway Patrol escorted two trucks destined to Qualcomm Stadium.

Additionally, the Marines requested six truckloads of MREs, 10,000 cases or 120,000 meals be delivered to Camp Pendleton.

“I want to congratulate the Warehousing Team at DDJC for their mobility and flexibility to meet the challenge of resources,” said Bob Mahan, chief, Shipping Division. “I stand in awe of the folks in Shipment Planning, Truck Control, and Customer Service who never thought of getting up from their desks to leave at 3:30 p.m., but hunkered down and got the food rolling to those in need.”



An employee from Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif., moves meals-ready-to-eat, or MREs, to a truck destined for Southern California. The MREs were requested by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Marine Corps and other agencies to help feed people who were displaced by the recent wildfires in Southern California.

DDC sites will be first to come under new freight management program

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Eighteen Defense Distribution Center sites will be the first to reap the benefits of the Defense Transportation Coordination Initiative, or DTICI, which came online earlier this year.

The purpose of the initiative is to offer a centralized, uniform and consistent approach to Department of Defense freight movements in the continental United States by establishing one single-touch transportation coordinator.

A business case analysis conducted by U.S. Transportation Command indicated that DTICI will save a significant amount of taxpayer dollars spent on the movement of supplies stateside, according to Mike Nowaczyk, chief of DDC's Transition Branch of the Logistics Operations Division.

Using load consolidation, shipment planning, cross docking operations, routing services and other optimization methods, the initiative is expected to improve reliability and predictability of shipments across the DOD network.

Shipping requests will be sent to the new single-touch coordinator via a transaction over DDC's transportation and warehousing system that will allow the coordinator to find carriers to pick up the shipments.

This new system of processing shipping requests replaces telephone calls to each carrier to check availability.

"The coordinator can then use the data from the transactions to optimize all the requests for service from multiple DOD shippers by merging the shipping requests from one or more military activities to plan a more efficient load and route plan," explained Nowaczyk.

The coordinator will fulfill the requests using internal resources and by subcontracting work to other commercial carriers.

Increased efficiencies realized through DTICI will also allow improved visibility of the cargo moving through the supply chain. For DDC's customers, this will mean a higher degree of predictability for the delivery of supplies.

Nowaczyk expects the transition to be transparent to DDC's military customers and to have a limited impact on DDC's distribution centers.

DTICI will be rolled out over time in three phases. The first phase has begun with the first of DDC's sites preparing for the transition. Phase one will include all 18 of DDC's stateside distribution centers.

Phase two will incorporate DOD shipping activities near the distribution centers including select aerial ports and other DOD shippers.

By the conclusion of the final phase, 67 military shipping activities within the continental U.S. will be serviced by the single DTICI coordinator. Additional contract options could allow up to 260 sites to take part in the initiative.

According to Nowaczyk, some categories of freight are excluded from DTICI including military unit moves, sensitive or classified shipments, bulk and missile fuels, as well as arms, ammunition and explosives.

The DTICI contract was awarded to Menlo Worldwide Government Services, LLC of San Mateo, Calif., by the U.S. Transportation Command.



Eighteen Defense Distribution Center sites will be the first to reap the benefits of the Defense Transportation Coordination Initiative. DTICI provides a centralized approach to Department of Defense freight movements in the continental United States by establishing a single transportation coordinator.

Acquisition integrity stressed to workforce

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

Acquisition integrity was the topic of a presentation to the Defense Distribution Center acquisition workforce Nov. 6.

Senior Executive Scottie Knott, director of Acquisition Management for the Defense Logistics Agency, spoke to a gathering of DDC and Document Automation and Production Service personnel to reinforce the message that individual employees are the ones who hold the line on acquisition integrity.

“No amount of oversight can make a contract better,” Knott said. “That’s your responsibility.”

According to Knott, the acquisition workforce makes up approximately 30 percent of DLA’s “white-collar” workforce, more than 2,500 people, and manages more than \$26 billion in obligations. Being a good steward of those taxpayer dollars is a mandate, not an option, she said.

DDC’s Acquisition Operations personnel provided Knott with an overview of their processes for acquisition planning, assistance and post-award accountability. According to Gene Surmacz, director, DDC Acquisitions Operations, Knott believes some of those processes could be applicable to some of DLA’s large privatization and prime vendor contracts.

“The entire day was a valuable session on various acquisition matters,” Surmacz said.

Knott also explained that the need for supply chain integrity went beyond simply being the right thing to do. Those who depend on the items we purchase and deliver, America’s war fighters, deserve nothing less, she said.

While DLA doesn’t buy or distribute “big ticket” items such as



Senior Executive Scottie Knott, director of Acquisition Management for the Defense Logistics Agency speaks to a gathering of Defense Distribution Center and Document Automation and Production Service personnel Nov. 6. Knott stressed the importance of integrity in the acquisition process.

tanks, planes or ships, the items it does deliver—nuts, bolts, uniforms, food, etc.—are vitally important to the people on the front lines. Getting those items at the best price and delivering them in the most efficient manner is what integrity in the acquisition process, in addition to ensuring the process abides by all relevant policies and regulations.

“We do this through our acquisition integrity model,” Knott explained.

The model covers four topics: oversight, policy, workforce development and process improvement, and each is a continuous process.

Knott stressed that appropriate policy requires input from the workforce. Policymakers need information from the workforce about

what works, what doesn’t, what’s practical and what isn’t. Unworkable policies serve no purpose and only make it more likely that violations will occur, she said.

Knott also explained how important workforce development is to the process. The more training and broader understanding the acquisition workforce has of the entire process, the better it will function. Many acquisition areas are intertwined and a well informed, and highly trained workforce helps to find ways to improve the process and increase efficiency.

“I encourage everyone to become familiar with different fields of acquisition,” she explained. “Being a jack-of-all-trades is a good thing in acquisitions.”

DDC trains, prepares for disasters

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center's Command Control Center led a Continuity of Operations Plan, or COOP, exercise July 12, 2007.

The exercise was designed as part of the command's response to potential disasters that might make the current headquarters site unsafe or unusable, requiring the organization to move essential operations and key personnel to another location.

"We have to quickly establish essential operations at our alternative site at the Defense Supply Center in Columbus, Ohio," said Kenneth DesJardins, chief of DDC's Command Control Center. "This exercise will prepare DDC headquarters for disaster situations and allow us to minimize interruptions to essential services and operations during COOP plan activation."

The first step to prepare DDC for COOP was the establishment of an Integrated

Process Team which consisted of key members from each of DDC's directorates, selected staff officers and the Defense Logistics Agency. The team conducted a detailed review and analysis of the existing COOP plan. After the review, an exercise was conducted in July 2007, when 23 personnel, mostly IPT members, deployed from DDC headquarters in New Cumberland, Pa., to DSCC. The four-day exercise evaluated the facilities there and the plan DesJardins' staff and IPT members developed.

According to DesJardins, the support he received from members of the command was crucial to the success of the exercise.

"Michael Sohomuch and Sharon Rowe from DDC's Information Operations Directorate provided superior technical support throughout the exercise, and Jason Smith, a member of my staff, also played a key role in ensuring the exercise went smoothly," DesJardins said. "Without the three of them, we wouldn't have been able to pull this off."

The next step was to get the entire workforce familiar with the provisions and reasons for COOP. So DesJardins, Smith and Joseph O'Neal, another member of DesJardins' staff, and James McCormack from DDC's Support Operations Branch, briefed more than 665 employees during a two-day period in August 2007. The brief explained the basic provisions of DDC's COOP plan, including notification procedures, deployment requirements and plans and how the organization would return to New



Kenneth DesJardins, chief of Defense Distribution Center's Command Control Center, conducts an after action meeting with employees who participated in DDC's Continuity of Operations Plan exercise in July.

Cumberland when the crisis or disaster was over.

Planning for COOP is an ongoing process. DesJardins has already planned the next exercise for July 2008 and hopes to have an even more robust exercise.



Michael Sohomuch and Sharon Rowe, DDC Information Operations, monitor local area network connectivity for the Defense Distribution Center's Continuity of Operations Plan exercise in July.

Do you have a suggestion for the editor?



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DDDE celebrates successful year, supervisors dance ... poorly

Employees enjoy food and entertainment at appreciation picnic

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

It looked like a cross between a family reunion, a county fair, and a hoe down.

Amid servings of Texas barbecue (the German version, of course) Defense Distribution Depot Europe employees and their families enjoyed ribs, steaks, music, games and prizes at an employee appreciation picnic in September.

And they even got to see their favorite supervisors perform a choreographed dance to “Cotton-Eyed Joe,” a unique musical selection that fuses country and rap. “Some had rhythm and some didn’t, but we all had fun,” said DDDE Deputy Commander and featured line dancer Charlie Austin.

According to Austin, the picnic was a reward for the outstanding performance of DDDE’s workforce over the last fiscal year.

From October 2006 to September 2007, DDDE exceeded metrics and inventory accuracy goals in addition to increasing productivity by 20 percent and providing a new capability – the Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point-Europe.

“What a great year from Team DDDE!” said Austin.

“This is an impressive group of dedicated people,” commended DDDE Commander Army Lt. Col. Lance Koenig. “They are a cohesive team with the single focus of supporting America’s war fighters,”

The banner said it all: Defense Distribution Depot Europe, exceeding all goals and performance metrics, 2006-2007.

For Austin, it’s the perfect reason to celebrate ... despite the fact that he had to be the center stage dancer during “Cotton-Eyed Joe.”



Supervisors dance to “Cotton-Eyed Joe” during the Defense Distribution Depot Europe employee appreciate picnic.



Defense Distribution Depot Europe employees celebrate a successful year in which they exceeded metrics and inventory accuracy goals in addition to increasing productivity by 20 percent and providing a new capability – the Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point-Europe.



Food, music, games and prizes were plentiful at the Defense Distribution Depot Europe employee appreciation picnic.

DDC leader development program seeks ideal results

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

A small group of the Defense Distribution Center's senior leaders were among the first to enter the second phase of DDC's performance-focused Leadership Academy in November.

According to Kevin Cummings, chief of DDC's Transformation Office, the course focused on the leadership competencies needed for creating and maintaining a high performing work culture.

Concepts explored by the students included building a shared vision, managing change and conflict, and using effective communication to motivate employees.

"Embracing a culture of continuous improvement has been prevalent during my Army career," said Lt. Col. Steve Toft, commander of Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, "I'm glad DDC recognizes the importance of allocating time and resources to assist commanders and their personnel in developing that culture."

Marine Corps Maj. Kent Wheeler, commander of Defense Distribution Depot Albany, Ga., found the training useful in meeting customer needs. "It provided the roots to grow the leadership within the enterprise to become a high performing organization in order to meet and exceed the war fighter's requirements today and in the future."

Wheeler's deputy commander, Rita Varner, said the class was rich in culture-building techniques: "This training lays a basic foundation of respect for others and a team concept for DDC's leaders to follow."

Cummings says this three-day training session is a critical component



Course instructor Joyce Crouch discusses leadership concepts with Ed Visker, deputy commander of Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa. Visker is also the former Chief of Staff of the Defense Distribution Center headquarters where he played a key role in the implementation of leader development initiatives including the Leadership Academy.

of the new "DDC System" – an integrated initiative that aligns the organization's internal processes, training efforts, and continuous improvement culture in order to accomplish supply chain objectives and drive competitive advantage.

For Ed Visker, deputy commander of Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., the course was both timely and relevant. "The contemporary leadership information presented fits perfectly with the DDC leadership philosophy," Visker said.

Effective leadership is the foundation of the DDC System, and ideal

performance is incorporated throughout the system's framework. For example, the DDC System seeks perfect customer satisfaction and quality at the lowest cost while maintaining perfect safety standards.

"In the DDC System, we set goals according to what we should do, not what we think we can do," explained Cummings.

Over the next year, about 75 percent of DDC's senior leaders and supervisors will participate in the second phase of DDC Leadership Academy.

Commanding officer retires, moves to new position at DDWG

Moore retires from Air Force, becomes Chief of Support Services Group

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Former Air Force Col. Elizabeth A. Moore, commander, Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga., retired from the Air Force during a Sept. 4 ceremony at Robins Air Force Base.

Addressing the audience of family, friends and coworkers, Moore said her military career of nearly 28 years had been defined by Air Force's Core Values: Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.

"The best years of my career were spent wearing BDUs [Battle Dress Uniform], executing what all military members are trained to do – engaging in operations at the pointy end of the spear," Moore continued.

Defense Distribution Center Commander Army Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar presided over the ceremony, and praised Moore for her contributions to DDWG during her command.

"By taking the initiative to expand monthly meetings with customers, Beth was able to offer solutions that decreased customer wait time, and, in turn, allowed the customer – the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center – to increase productivity," Collyar praised.

"Her awards, which include the Defense Superior and Meritorious Service Medals, are a testament to the

quality of the support she has provided over the years," Collyar added.

During the ceremony, Collyar also presented Moore with the Legion of Merit.

Fortunately for DDWG, an asset like Moore didn't

go far. In fact, she only moved three doors down the hall.

Moore returned to DDWG to serve as the chief of the Support Services Group.

Until a new Commander is named, DDWG Deputy Commander Robert "Bob" King will oversee operations. King has also served in the deputy commander role at two other DDC distribution centers in Albany, Ga., Norfolk, Va., and Gernersheim, Germany.

DDWG currently stocks an inventory valued at nearly \$12 billion that includes parts and equipment for F-15, C-130, C-5, C-17 aircraft, target acquisition systems, and most airborne electronic warfare systems.

As a result of the Base Realignment and Closure Act of 2005, DDWG is in the process

of transforming into a strategic distribution platform that will support other distribution centers in the region as well as local and overseas customers. The process is expected to be completed by 2011.



Air Force Col. Elizabeth A. Moore retired from the Air Force as the Commander of Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga., but returned to DDWG as a civilian later that month as the chief of DDWG's Support Services Group.

Red River sends Lt. Col. Yarbrough off with Texas Salute

Toft assumes command of DDRT

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Army Lt. Col. Betty Yarbrough relinquished command of Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, to Lt. Col. Steven Toft, in a ceremony July 26.

With more than 200 employees and guests attending the ceremony, DDRT bid farewell to Yarbrough and welcomed Toft with a traditional Texas salute. Cheryl Yount, and her horse Sammy, and David Morris, and his horse Oreo, paraded the flags of the United States and Texas honoring the official party. In addition, Yount and Morris, along with their horses, presented gifts to the Yarbrough and Toft families.

The ceremony was presided over by Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, commander of Defense Distribution Center, headquartered in New Cumberland, Pa. In his opening remarks, Collyar thanked the Texarkana community and specifically the Red River Army Depot for their support to DDC and DDRT, "Red River is a great place to work. Everyone here

is a part of 'the team' and that doesn't happen everywhere. I really commend the Red River Army Depot employees and their leadership for making that teamwork a way of life."

Collyar continued his remarks by highlighting the accomplishments of the DDRT team, and Yarbrough, during her tenure as commander, "The DDRT tire and wheel assembly operation produced over 60,000 assemblies for use by the war fighter. In addition, DDRT's consolidation and containerization point shipped over 13,000 463L pallets and almost 4,000 seavan containers," said Collyar.

During her two years, Yarbrough re-engineered processes to better serve DDRT's customers. Efficiencies in the distributions operations center and supporting facilities were gained by realigning operations, instituting Lean principles, and enhancing material flow to accommodate an increased workload, expanded mission and change in commodity mix.

In addition to commanding DDRT, Yarbrough was instrumental in formally standing up DDC's deployable distribution center, and subsequently became the deployable center's first commander. "Through her efforts, DDC's deployable distribution center is positioned to respond to the next national emergency. We will be ready to operate alongside other federal agencies providing

humanitarian assistance and disaster relief services here at home," said Collyar.

Collyar also presented Yarbrough with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of her accomplishments as commander of DDRT.

During the change of command segment, Yarbrough passed the colors to Collyar and relinquished command of DDRT and addressed the audience and the hard working men and women of DDRT and



Army Lt. Col. Betty Yarbrough, right, is awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, commander, Defense Distribution Center. Yarbrough was awarded the medal in recognition of her accomplishments while in command of Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas.

the deployable distribution center, "Being a part of DDRT has been an awesome experience. In most assignments, it's the people that make it worthwhile. Here, it was not just the people; it was also the critical mission of supporting the war fighter every day. I am humbled and extremely proud to have been a part of this team of professionals and for being given this great opportunity of command."

As he accepted the colors, Toft acknowledged his responsibility of command of DDRT, and addressed his new workforce, "DDRT is a first class organization with a talented workforce that always accomplishes the mission regardless of how large, diverse or complex it is. In the short time I've been here, it has become clear that this is truly a special place with special people. It is no wonder that the United States Army and the Department of Defense continue to give their most important work to Red River."

Toft, is a native of Osseo, Wis. He served five years prior enlisted service in Air Defense Artillery culminating as a Staff Sergeant. After leaving



Cheryl Yount and her horse Sammy parade the Nation's colors to open Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas's change of command ceremony. Parading flags on horseback is a traditional Texas salute at official ceremonies.

active duty, he received a direct commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps while serving in the Tennessee Army National Guard.

He is a graduate of the Army Medical Department Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, and the Command and General Staff College. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and a master's degree from Austin Peay State University.

Toft's past assignments include Stinger Missile Crew Chief, 1-32 Field Artillery, Fliegerhorst Caserne, Hanau, Germany; Stinger Missile Squad Leader, 2-44th Air Defense Artillery, Fort Campbell, Ky; Medical Platoon Leader, 2nd Squadron, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Cookeville, Tenn.; Ambulance Platoon Leader, 25th Medical Battalion; Medical Platoon Leader, 4-22 Infantry Battalion; Executive Officer, C/225th Forward Support Battalion and Deputy Support Operations Officer, 225th Forward Support Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Commander, C/99th Support Battalion, 9th Separate Infantry Brigade, Fort



Lt. Col. Steven Toft

Polk, La.; Commander, Medical Troop, Regimental Support Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Polk, La.; Reserve Component Advisor, Readiness Group Fort Riley; Battalion S2/3, 125th Forward Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division, Fort Riley, Kan.; Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 31st Combat Support Hospital, Fort Bliss, Texas; Chief, Division Medical Operations Center, 101st Airborne Division; Executive Officer, 86th Combat Support Hospital, Fort Campbell, Ky.; S2/3, 1st Medical Brigade; Executive Officer, 1st Medical Brigade; Deputy Surgeon, III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas. His operational and combat deployments include Haiti in 1995, Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Kuwait.

Toft's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, the Expert Field Medical Badge, the Parachutist Badge and the Air Assault Badge.



Army Lt. Col. Steven Toft, right, accepts the colors from Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, commander, Defense Distribution Center, during the Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, change of command ceremony. Passing the colors from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander is a long-standing tradition in the military that symbolizes the transfer of command from one officer to another.

DDRT Idol winner sings National Anthem at change of command ceremony

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Melba Thurston, secretary for the Distribution Operations Branch of Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, sang the national anthem during Red River's change of command ceremony July 26.

Thurston competed in Red River's 2007 DDRT Idol contest for the honor of singing the anthem during the ceremony and was selected as the winner by U.S. Army Lt. Col.

Betty Yarbrough, DDRT's outgoing commander.

Thurston, who has been with DDRT for more than 25 years, has a strong singing background. At the age of 7, she made her debut singing with her local church youth choir. Throughout her school years, Thurston performed at many events to include black history programs, proms and her own graduation ceremony.

Although the competition brings no global fame, Thurston wanted to win for a different reason.

"I wanted to sing the National Anthem during our change of command because within the last few years, the song has taken on a whole new meaning for me," Thurston said. "My son is one of the war fighters that DDRT supports. He is preparing for his third deployment to the war."

"Somebody once said that the hardest part of being a mother is the labor and delivery -- that somebody never watched their baby board a plane headed to war," Thurston explained.

The competition, hosted by DDRT employee Carol Wright, coordinator for the change of command, included a panel of three judges—minus the infamous Simon Cowell—who judged the performance of Thurston and two other contestants.

"I am honored that I was chosen to sing the National Anthem at this year's ceremony," Thurston said. "As I sing it, I won't be singing it for recognition, fame or glory; I will be singing it because I am proud to be a part of DDRT and the Defense Distribution Center's mission to support our sons, daughters, nieces and nephews, the war fighters who, too, ask for no recognition, fame or glory."



Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas's 2007 "Idol," Melba Thurston.

Colors passed at Anniston

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

Army Lieutenant Col. Robert A. Harney, Jr., relinquished command of Defense Distribution Depot Anniston, Ala., to Army Lt. Col. Robert E. Gagnon in a ceremony July 24. Harney completed a tour of just more than two years and heads to the Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, Va.

"It seems like only yesterday when I stood before you, humbled by my command selection, with a simple vision to leave this organization a better place than I found it," Harney said as he addressed the audience during the change of command ceremony. "It's been the people who have made my tenure most memorable."

Harney's efforts resulted in significant improvements in the command climate and performance of DDAA during his two years in command. He handled an inventory valued at more than \$7 billion and managed a budget that exceeded \$23 million.

He was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal during the ceremony by Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, commander, Defense Distribution Center, who presided over the ceremony.

"His leadership also improved the command climate at DDAA by 460 percent—the largest improvement in any DDC agency," Collyar said. "He fostered an atmosphere of employee empowerment."

Collyar added that those changes helped DDAA to amass an outstanding customer support record and helped the organization to exceed every Defense Logistics Agency performance metric for 23 consecutive months and counting.

"Rick, we are sad to see you go," Collyar added. "Good luck and Godspeed."

Gagnon, who takes command of DDAA after serving in Afghanistan as the deputy commander of the 10th Joint Logistics Command, Combined Joint Task Force-76, also thanked Harney for what he accomplished while leading DDAA.

"Rick, thanks for setting me up for success through your tremendous work here," Gagnon said. "I am extremely excited about the opportunities here and look forward to working with all the members of the team."



Lt. Col. Robert A. Harney Jr.



Lt. Col. Robert E. Gagnon



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Knox assumes command of Defense Distribution Depot Cherry Point

By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Public Affairs

Navy Cmdr. Joseph T. Sermarini, relinquished command of Defense Distribution Depot Cherry Point, N.C., or DDCN, and retired after more than 21 years in the Navy.

The ceremony, held Sept. 20, in Cherry Point, N.C., was officiated by Army Col. Perry L. Knight, chief of staff, Defense Distribution Center.

While in command of Cherry Point, Sermarini provided superb distribution support to Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point; 2nd Marine Air Wing; Marine Aviation Logistics Squadrons; and Fleet Readiness Center East, Cherry Point, Knight said.

DDCN maintains an inventory of approximately 53,000 line items with a dollar value exceeding 3.8 billion. DDCN is one of 26 distribution centers located around the world managed by DDC.

"Joe was not just focused on the numbers, he knows there are people behind those numbers," Knight said. "He implemented a myriad of internal support initiatives aimed at improving the DDCN command climate, and employee morale and discipline.

"Joe, you held your people accountable and they performed," Knight said.

For his service, Sermarini was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

To the employees of DDCN, Knight said, "Your hard work, teamwork and commitment are a testament to Joe and to each of you individually. You have directly contributed to our many successes. That hard work, teamwork and commitment will continue to be important in the days ahead.

"You work without glory, but with a dedication to supporting our war fighters that is nothing short of outstanding," Knight said.

As the new commander, Knox's priorities include establishing DDCN



Navy Cmdr. Joseph T. Sermarini

as a model workplace, exceeding the standards for quality, safety, and equal opportunity while meeting his customers' expectations.

Knox, a Navy Supply Corps Officer, earned a bachelor's degree in Economics from Davidson College in 1985 and holds a Master's of Business Administration degree from Boston University and a master's degree in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School.

Knox's sea tours include serving as Aircraft Commander and Naval Air Training Operations Procedures Standardization instructor in Helicopter Support Squadron Five, Group Aviation Safety Officer in Marine Aircraft Group 26 and Assistant Supply Officer aboard USS Saipan (LHA-2).

His shore tours include

serving as a flight instructor in Helicopter Training Squadron 18, Academic Instructor for the Naval Aerospace and Operational Medical Institute, Operations Research Analyst for the Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower and Personnel), Operations Research Analyst for Chief of Naval Operations (Resources, Requirements and Assessments) and Operations Research Analyst for Commander Naval Supply Systems Command.

Knox's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy Achievement Medal (three awards) and numerous unit, campaign and service awards. He is a qualified Naval Aviator, Naval Aviation Supply Officer and Surface Warfare Supply Officer.



Navy Cmdr. Bryant Knox

Tobyhanna commander relinquishes command, retires

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Yvonne B. MacNamara passed the reigns of command of Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa., to Lt. Col. Michael J. Talley in a ceremony July 17.

After relinquishing command, MacNamara retired after 21 years of service in the United States Army.

"I am excited today, but I also have mixed emotions," MacNamara said. "Today is the last official military ceremony for me and because of that it is (an) especially sentimental one."

MacNamara thanked her family, especially her father and husband who are also retired soldiers, for their support

of her career over the years. She also thanked the employees of DDTP for their hard work and dedication to the mission.

Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, commander, Defense Distribution Center, presided over the ceremony and praised MacNamara's accomplishments while in command of DDTP and throughout her career.

"It is clearly evident that Yvonne has been committed to excellence throughout her career," Collyar said just prior to the retirement ceremony. "On Yvonne's retirement, we express our appreciation on behalf of the Army and bid farewell to an Army officer who has served her country faithfully and honorably for more than 21 years."

Collyar presented MacNamara with the Legion of Merit medal, recognizing her extraordinary achievements during her career. He also presented her with a certificate of appreciation from President George W. Bush, thanking her for her service and her retirement certificate.

During MacNamara's tenure at DDTP, she worked to develop a cooperative atmosphere with Tobyhanna Army Depot and Collyar praised her for her success.

"The ones that really benefit from that teamwork are our Soldiers and Marines fighting the war on terrorism," Collyar said. "Our troops count on this distribution center."

Talley, who comes to Tobyhanna from the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La., was excited to assume command.



Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, left, commander, Defense Distribution Center, presents the Legion of Merit to Lt. Col. Yvonne B. MacNamara during a change of command and retirement ceremony at Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa. July 17.



Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, left, commander, Defense Distribution Center, passes the colors to Lt. Col. Michael J. Talley, right. Talley assumed command of Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa. in a ceremony July 17.

He arrived at DDTP two weeks prior to the ceremony for a command turnover with MacNamara and had the opportunity to meet the employees.

He was impressed.

"I am proud, and deeply humbled, to be the newest member of the DDTP team," he said. "The atmosphere and the spirit of this organization, is absolutely phenomenal."



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DDMA workforce trains new commander

After assuming command of Defense Distribution Mapping Activity, Navy Cmdr. John Palmer spent several hours each day learning the warehouse processes at DDMA. The effort was called “Train the New Commander Week.”

Palmer received an orientation and did hands-on training in the nine major functions in the warehouse: receiving, stowing, selection, packing, less-than-truckload, or LTL, small parcel shipping, inventory/location surveys, re-warehousing and replenishment/salvage.

The DDMA workforce moves an average 4,300 lines of material each day. They were excited to have the opportunity to show the new commander the distribution operations and felt that immediate exposure to the personnel and processes would help him understand all areas of the operation.

George Gropsorean, DDMA late shift supervisor, said he was “honored to have the Commander work with them.



Otis Scott, left, shows Navy Cmdr. John Palmer, right, commander, Defense Distribution Mapping Activity, how to receive materiel at DDMA.

He is a people person. Learning from the experts on the floor will make the Commander knowledgeable of how we do business.”

“It’s good for workforce to see who is leading them and know that he is interested in their work,” said Ronnie Jenkins, DDMA Inventory Operations.

Frankie Thomas, LTL Section, said, “Cmdr. Palmer now knows his maps and how to read stock numbers, look for lines, how to read tickets. I thought



Steven Baumgartner, left, shows Navy Cmdr. John Palmer, right, commander, Defense Distribution Mapping Activity, how to package maps.

it was fantastic how he wanted to learn. We will be happy to do it again.”

“I have always believed when you begin a new job, it is important to meet people and learn processes quickly,” said Palmer. “With ‘Train the Commander Week,’ we were able to do both. The men and women at DDMA do a superb job, and I’m proud to join their team. Their training gives me better insight and will help us all to better support our war fighters.”

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Army Lt. Col. Robert Maxham assumes command of DDCT

Army Lt. Col. Timothy Orner relinquishes command and retires after 20 years

By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Public Affairs

Army Lt. Col. Robert C. Maxham assumed command of Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christ, Texas, on July 10, 2007, in a ceremony held inside a DDCT warehouse. Army Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar officiated at the ceremony and presided over the retirement of Army Lt. Col. Timothy W. Orner, Sr, who relinquished command of DDCT and retired from the Army after more than 20 years of service.

The Patriot Band and Honor Guard of America provided music to accompany the ceremony as well as posted and retired the colors, keeping traditions alive.

"You make sure the right item gets to the right people at the right time," Collyar told the DDCT Team. "You do it without glory, but with a dedication to supporting our war fighters that is nothing short of outstanding."

"Each of our team members—civilian employees, active and reserve military personnel, local and foreign national employees, and contractors—all are integral to that support. On behalf of those war fighters, I thank you for what you do," Collyar said.

DDCT serves as the primary wholesale distribution point for major components to support helicopter repair missions for Department of Defense customers worldwide. Its mission is to receive, store, pack, preserve, issue, and arrange transportation for assigned supplies and equipment as directed by the Defense Logistics Agency and other military item managers.

Items stored and processed at DDCT include end items and repair parts for small aircraft and helicopters, avionics, and electronics. The DDCT Team also loads and unloads helicopters and other cargo from C-17, C-5A, C-141,

and C-130 aircraft operated by the Air Mobility Command.

"While in command of DDCT, Orner developed a long-range business plan, assigned ownership, and designed and managed initiatives and metrics to achieve continuous process improvement," Collyar said.



Army Lt. Col. Robert C. Maxham



Army Lt. Col. Timothy W. Orner, Sr.

"He enacted process improvements known as Lean initiatives which resulted in reduced processing cost per transaction and increased productivity by 35 percent at the same time improving DDCT's organizational culture dramatically," Collyar said. "He re-engineered work flow processes to increase velocity of critical supplies to the collocated Army maintenance depot and overseas to the war fighter."

Orner shaped a safety and security environment that resulted in a 50 percent reduction in overall accidents and a zero case rate of facilities or information technology system breaches.

Orner assumed command of DDCT on July 14, 2005. Born in Scranton, Pa., Orner was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery in 1987. Orner transferred to the Quartermaster Corps in 1991. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina and

a Master of Science degree in Logistics Management from the Florida Institute of Technology. His military education includes the U.S. Army Airborne, Parachute Rigger and Air Assault Schools, the Field Artillery Basic and Advanced Courses and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

In 2003, Orner was assigned as the Director of Logistics for the Joint Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command, Camp Smith, Hawaii, part of the U.S. POW/MIA accounting mission in Southeast Asia, North Korea, China, Europe, Papua New Guinea and Burma.

As the Director of Logistics, Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Orner merged two organizations (Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii and the Joint Task Force

Full Accounting) to synchronize supply, maintenance, distribution and financial management functions supporting Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command.

He successfully resourced POW/MIA operations totaling more than \$120 million and his management enabled the flexibility to conduct additional missions in Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia.

Orner was directly responsible for the recovery and identification of 62 missing Americans from the Vietnam, Korean and World War II.

Orner's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal one oak leaf cluster. He is also authorized to wear the Parachutist Badge, the Parachutist Rigger Badge and the Air Assault Badge.

“Max, Tim leaves a strong legacy for you to continue,” Collyar told Maxham. “You bring a wealth of skill to us and you are being entrusted to lead a great team.”

Maxham graduated from Norwich University in May 1988, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps. He completed the Medical Service Corps Officer Basic Course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. While assigned to the Division, he served as the Medical Platoon Leader in the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, and Medical Company Treatment Platoon Leader and Executive Officer in the 725th Main Support Battalion. Returning to Fort Sam Houston in 1993, he attended the Medical Service Corps Officer Advance Course.

Following the Advance Course in 1993, Maxham was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. During this assignment, he served as a Medical Company Commander and S3 in the 710th Main Support Battalion. In 1997, Maxham was assigned to the 70th Medical Battalion, 44th Medical Brigade, as the Battalion Executive Officer.

In 1999, Maxham returned to the 10th Mountain Division as the Chief, Division Medical Operations Center, 10th Division Support Command. He served in this position until 2001 and was then assigned to Fort Detrick, Md., and served for three years as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations in the Army Medical Research and Material Command.

Maxham returned to Fort Sam Houston in 2004 and served as the Executive Officer, 232nd Medical Battalion.

Most recently, Maxham was assigned as a Medical Operations Consultant for the Directorate of Combat and Doctrine Development, Army Medical Department Center and School.

Maxham holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and a Masters of Science in Health Care Administration. His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (four oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (three oak leaf clusters) and the Army Achievement Medal (three oak leaf clusters). He is also authorized to wear the Expert Field Medical Badge and the Air Assault Badge.

New distribution center commanders complete Logistics Pre-Command Course

By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Public Affairs

Each summer, several of the Defense Distribution Center's 26 distribution center commanders change command. In June 2007, ten new commanders completed the DDC Logistics Pre-Command Course.

The program helps prepare new commanders for their role of managing and operating DDC's distribution centers. The LPCC demonstrates the importance of supply chain integration and illustrates how all components of the supply chain system connect together in order to flow most smoothly. Emphasis is placed on DDC specific systems, functions and programs.

“Overall, it was an outstanding program,” said incoming Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa., commander, Army Lt. Col. Michael J. Talley. “The curriculum exposed incoming commanders to DDSP (Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa.), the military's largest distribution platform, as well as to commercial best practices. This

was the first joint pre-command course specifically structured and focused for the unique challenges of DDC commanders.”

The LPCC included overviews of all DDC program areas; a simulation of a distribution center; metrics discussion; an overview of the Distribution Standard System, or DSS, the backbone of information technology operations for DDC; and hands-on DSS training using the computer lab and mock warehouse.

Additionally, DDC's Transformation Office discussed DDC's culture and organizational transformation initiatives with a focus on DDC Lean initiatives.

“LPCC was a good, fast-paced and focused course,” said incoming Defense Distribution Mapping Activity commanding officer Navy Cmdr. John Palmer. “New commanders complete the week and are fully briefed in DDC processes and methods of doing business.”



As part of the Logistics Pre-Command Course, or LPCC, new distribution center commanders participated in a simulation of a distribution center; including training on the Distribution Standard System, or DSS, the backbone of information technology operations for DDC; and hands-on training using the computer lab and mock warehouse.

Albany distribution center rolls out pallets of replacement tires for Humvees

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

Employees at Defense Distribution Depot Albany, Ga., began preparing for a new mission Oct. 2 to support Theater Army Repair Program backorders for tires.

The tires are needed by war fighters in Iraq and Afghanistan to replace tires on damaged Humvees.

The DDAG staff was asked if they could receive loose tires directly from vendors and palletize them on 463L Air Pallets to meet shipment requirements for deliveries outside of the continental U.S.

"Of course, DDAG said yes," said Rita Varner, deputy commander, DDAG. "The process began as we assigned personnel, redirected workload and established a working process."

The request was received Oct. 2 and team members were selected and mission planning began immediately. The decision was to conduct a modified cross-docking operation. The tires would arrive in Albany, be palletized and then shipped to the nearest airport for transportation.

Tires are shipped individually from the vendors, so when they get to Albany, the first challenge is to get them neatly onto a pallet. Stacking the tires one at a time would take too much time.

The distribution center had an old piece of equipment that solved the problem.

"We use a squeeze lift to pick up more than one tire at a time and place them on the pallets," said John Vinson, special project coordinator. "The squeeze lift opens horizontally and makes it easier to get several tires on a pallet at a time."

Albany doesn't work with air pallets on a regular basis, so the next challenge was to make sure the team knew what the exact requirements were. Several employees who had experience with air pallets were identified and added to the team to make sure the pallets were built correctly.

"We also had the assistance of two employees from Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas," Varner added. "Lee Sands and Jane Haley came here for two days to train our staff to properly build 463L Air Pallets."

Sands' and Haley's information was invaluable to the DDAG team as they prepared to take on the additional mission.

"Having employees with experience packing air pallets was a great help," said Marine Corps Master Sgt. Frederick Brooks, chief, Joint Logistics Operations. "Teamwork is the key to our success."

After establishing an efficient workflow to process the tires, the team began to tweak the system further as they identified areas where they could make improvements. The goal, according to Brooks, is a process that requires a minimum number of "touches" and the least movement.

"We believe we have the most efficient process in place," Brooks said. "Efficiency means that our customers, the war fighters, get these tires as quickly as possible."

The team began processing tires as they arrived and have now reached the goal of processing 500 tires each day with four to nine employees working eight- to ten-hour shifts, Monday through Saturday.

This isn't the first time that DDAG has handled crucial items for Humvees. DDAG has processed kits of up-armor for Humvees for a couple of years, including building kit-specific crates. The Albany distribution center has also provided support for humanitarian relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters.

This staff sees this new tire project as just another opportunity to show their ability to adapt to changing missions.

"What we do is vital to support our war fighters," Vinson said. "They need these tires so they can do their jobs."

The Albany distribution depot provides storage, packaging and distribution support



Alex Rockwell, a distribution process worker at Defense Distribution Depot Albany, Ga., moves a pallet of 463L Air Pallets. The air pallets will be used to ship tires to the Middle East to replace tires on damaged Humvees.

to Department of Defense organizations around the world, however, DDAG's primary customer is Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga.

For more than a decade, DDAG's higher headquarters, the Defense Distribution Center, has been offering best value supply chain solutions through a broad range of services including storage, distribution, customized kits and specialized packaging as well as transportation support and technology development. Customers include the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and other agencies. Headquartered in New Cumberland, Pa., DDC operates a global network of 26 distribution centers that employ nearly 8,000 people worldwide. DDC is a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency.



Tilman Fuller, left, and Frank Morris prepare to place a packing net on a 463L Air Pallet loaded with tires headed to the Middle East to replace tires on damaged Humvees. Fuller and Morris are employees of Defense Distribution Depot Albany, Ga.

DDCT extends customer support to meet airlift mission

By Maria Dimick, DDCT Deputy Site Manager

Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi, Texas, which is collocated with Corpus Christi Army Depot, or CCAD, on a Naval Air Station, sometimes receives unique distribution requests.

DDCT received one of those requests Sept. 15, a Saturday.

Extending their customer service to meet the mission of CCAD, DDCT went beyond their normal airlift support. The week before, CCAD had scheduled an over-hauled utility helicopter to be loaded onto an airplane for transport from Corpus Christi to Yokota, Japan. With construction closing portions of the Naval Air Station, the airlift was rescheduled to Corpus Christi International Airport, located 20 miles from the Naval Station.

“We perform airlift missions about once a month,” said Victor Parra, distribution process work supervisor and airlift team lead, “but this is the first time any of us had done an airlift mission off-base at the international airport.”

For this mission, CCAD Aircraft Logistics Support Branch coordinated the airlift with Corpus Christi International Airport officials. The airport granted permission to use their tug and forklift. The helicopter was flown from the NAS to the airport the day before.

Diana Hendrix, DDCT transportation assistant, prepared the passenger manifest and hazardous declaration.

“Communication is key,” Hendrix said, “and CCAD does an excellent job in getting us the information we need.”

The DDCT airlift team members who participated in this mission included Jon Rogers, Don Woods, Richard Fuentes, Lee Cason, Walter Musgrove, Johnny Contreras Sr., Jason Martinez, David Garcia, Gary Christmas, and Chris Evans. Victor Parra led the team.

The DDCT airlift team arrived and pre-positioned the tractor trailer loaded with the ramps then awaited the arrival of the aircraft that would transport the helicopter, a C-5 Galaxy.

In typical Corpus Christi weather of 91 degrees, high humidity and scorching sun, the team began to unload the fabricated C-5 wood ramps. The forklift driver completed an operational check of the equipment while the team lead coordinated with the C-5 load master.

The team positioned the fabricated ramps at the end of the C-5 ramp then

shimmed them to get a tight fit against the C-5 ramp and airfield pavement.

The team maneuvered the helicopter by the tail and stabilized the main rotor blade during the upload. The load master called out when the helicopter was in place and his team secured the helicopter.

Then the DDCT team loaded the wood ramps onto the C-5 that would fly the helicopter to Japan. The paperwork was finalized and turned over to the load master.

The DDCT team secured the unused ramps on the tractor trailer and, mission complete, departed for home.

“The DDCT team always comes through,” said DDCT Commander, Army Lt. Col. Robert Maxham. “These folks know their jobs and their customers and how important the work they do is and they do it without glory. I couldn’t be more proud of them.”



Extending their customer service to meet the mission of Corpus Christi Army Depot, DDCT went beyond their normal airlift support. An airlift had to be rescheduled to Corpus Christi International Airport, located 20 miles from the Naval Station. DDCT performs airlift missions about once a month, but this is the first time they had done an airlift mission off-base at the international airport.

DDSI supports base closure

By Navy Cmdr. Mark E. Semmler, commander, DDSI

When the closure of the Navy base in La Maddalena, Italy was announced earlier this year, Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella, Italy, or DDSI, was tasked with coordinating the necessary transportation requirements.

Closing a base has many requirements, including determining what to do with furniture, equipment, vehicles and other general and hazardous materiel and then once the decision is made deciding how to get the items where they need to go. Receiving, consolidating and arranging for the transportation of a wide variety of cargo to diverse destinations is a daily routine in the DDSI warehouses located aboard Naval Air Station II, Sigonella. DDSI is well-positioned to handle the additional workload generated by the redistribution of base closure assets to locations both within theater and around the world.

Operating around the clock, DDSI has the personnel, expertise and resources to cost-effectively accomplish the redistribution mission. DDSI has nearly 200,000 square feet of distribution and warehouse operating space as well as the materiel handling equipment and vehicles required for lifting and transporting large quantities of materiel. In addition, DDSI has the capacity to accomplish robust packing evolutions, including a woodworking capability to support complex crating and bracing requirements. DDSI also has a packing team certified to prepare hazardous materiel for transportation.

In collaboration with logistics partners, the DDSI team is also able to facilitate timely materiel movement through the customs clearance processes, and effectively utilize commercial, organic and government



Mary Westlake, left, accountable officer; Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella, Italy, and Giuseppe "Joe" Savarino, technical support specialist, DDSI, discuss the disposition of materiel in DDSI's main warehouse. The materiel came from regional installations that have closed or are in the process of closing.

transportation resources to meet customer requirements.

Even though the redistribution effort is just getting underway, DDSI has already processed more than 125 pallets of materiel for movement from Sigonella. Additionally, DDSI has centrally procured and delivered 200 pallets and 100 tri-walls packing containers to support the liquidation effort. It is estimated that more than 200 truckloads of materiel will need to be moved from La Maddalena. In September, a team of DDSI transportation experts visited La Maddalena to certify hazardous materiel packing for shipment and provide personnel support as La Maddalena draws down its personnel. The entire effort is expected to run through February 2008.

In a related project earlier this year, DDSI was called upon to accomplish materiel redistribution efforts for seven sea van containers of cargo received as a result of the

closure of the Navy base in Keflavik, Iceland. With the help of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, or NAVFAC Sigonella, DDSI received, catalogued, and redistributed over 198 pallets of maintenance and repair materiel. With the Defense Distribution Center's goal of being a good steward of taxpayer dollars, personnel from DDSI, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service in Sigonella, and Naval Air Station Sigonella NAVFAC have collaborated to ensure that much of the materiel will be reused by local commands or by humanitarian operations.

Mary Westlake, the DDSI Accountable Officer and Project Manager for the redistribution efforts, summed up the efforts of DDSI employees, "These projects have highlighted DDSI's strength of tailored distribution to support any customer no matter their location or destination."

DDMA establishes Map Support Office Council

Defense Distribution Mapping Activity, or DDMA, located in Richmond, Va., announced the establishment of the Map Support Office Council on August 10. The MSO Council membership consists of the officers in charge of the nine Map Support Offices located in four states and five other countries around the world.

“Our Map Support Offices are DDMA’s extension of the DLA enterprise to our war fighters and combatant commanders,” said DDMA’s Commander, Navy Cmdr. John Palmer. “The MSOs provide face-to-face, world-class training and expertise to our fighting forces on a daily basis. In addition, the MSO workload alone averages about 135,000 lines annually, which rival many of the other distribution centers managed by the Defense Distribution Center. The MSO Council will provide an avenue for information transfer and standardization of processes across our Map Support Offices.”

The MSO Council’s first order of business was to elect their leadership. Navy Lt. Steve Lewis from MSO Hawaii and Kieth Putnam from MSO Japan were unanimously elected as co-chairmen by the council members.



Navy Lt. Steve Lewis, MSO Hawaii



Keith Putnam, MSO Japan

Palmer praised the selection of the council’s first leaders, “Lt. Lewis and Mr. Putnam are superb choices to lead the MSO Council. Both have a great deal of experience in day-to-day MSO operations and have been integral in special functions such as combatant commander interaction, war reserve activation exercises, and the ongoing MSO movement from Bahrain to Kuwait. Under their leadership, the MSO Council is in great hands.”

Ray recognized for aiding new delivery process



Army Sgt. Rebecca Ray receives a coin from Army Lt. Col. Lance Koenig, commander, Defense Distribution Depot Europe. Koenig presented Ray with the coin on behalf of Navy Rear Adm. Mark Harnitchek, commander, U.S. Central Command Deployment Distribution Operations Center. Ray, who was detailed to the Defense Distribution Center’s Transportation Planning Team, was instrumental in the success of a new process to move cargo from European vendors to war fighters in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Reserve Affairs team recognized for outstanding support

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs



The Commander of the Defense Logistics Agency Contingency Support Team in Kuwait honored the Defense Distribution Center Reserve Affairs and Mobilization division with an American flag and certificate of appreciation Nov. 19.

“Sue Alpaugh and her team were instrumental in the successful deployment of 30 percent of my unit and many other reservists from the DDC reserve units,” commended Navy Capt. Carl J. Stewart, commander, DLA Contingency Support Team – Kuwait.

He added, “They are just great Americans and recognizing them is the right thing to do.”

DLA field activities partner to conserve oil, save money

Innovative employees from DDRV, DES-Richmond, and DRMS find solution for disposal of hydraulic fluid

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Thanks to the collaboration of innovative employees from three Defense Logistics Agency organizations, the disposal of 33,000 gallons of hydraulic fluid stored in Richmond, Va., was completed at a savings of more than \$12,000.

Sixty drums of hydraulic fluid typically used on equipment like machine tools and forklifts were identified for disposal earlier this year due to the age of the product and the condition of the containers.

“Surface rust was starting to form on the drums, so we would not have been able to ship them out and still meet Department of Transportation requirements,” explained Chuck Willard, environmental specialist at Defense Distribution Depot Richmond, Va.

Since the product couldn’t be moved from DDRV’s storage sheds without transferring thousands of gallons of hydraulic fluid into new containers, Willard worked with his comrades at DLA Enterprise Support-Richmond, the host installation, and DLA’s disposal organization, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service, to find another solution.

DRMS Environmental Operation Monitor Joseph Jones decided to advertise the hydraulic fluid for purchase with the stipulation that the company buying the oil would be responsible for repackaging it.

A Massachusetts fuel company answered the bid, came to Richmond to collect the fluid, and plans to reprocess it for future use.

Valerie Dingle-Smith, Joe Krouse, and Bob Thompson from DLA Enterprise Support-Richmond supervised the process to ensure spills were avoided.

According to Willard, the ideas generated by this group of innovative DLA employees resulted from a shared concern



In Richmond, Va., a representative from the Massachusetts fuel company that purchased the hydraulic fluid transfers the oil into a tanker. The company plans to reprocess the hydraulic fluid for future use.

for preserving natural resources and the current cost of fuel and petroleum.

And it paid off. Cost avoidance for the disposal of the hydraulic fluid is estimated at more than \$12,000.

“We were glad to find a solution that not only allowed DLA to save money on the cost of new containers and transportation but also prevented the oil from being

discarded in a way that would cause pollution,” said Willard.

Willard also hopes to make this process a permanent option for the disposal of petroleum products from Defense Distribution Depot Richmond, Va.

You can learn more about environmental initiatives at the Defense Distribution Center by visiting www.ddc.dla.mil/enviro-safety.



Leadership

includes developing employees,

motivating your team, and

providing *direction*

Largest distribution center in DOD to participate in study of alternative fuel

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., a strategic military distribution platform, will be the site of a two-year evaluation of hydrogen fuel cell performance as part of the Bush administration's Advanced Energy Initiative to reduce America's dependence on foreign sources of energy.

This summer, 40 forklifts in the distribution center's fleet of more than 1,000 will be retrofitted with hydrogen fuel cells – an energy source expected to power the equipment about three times longer than traditional lead-acid batteries.

During the evaluation, a team from the Defense Logistics Agency Research and Development Division will be studying the capabilities, costs, limitations and benefits associated with the use of the hydrogen fuel cells.

According to DLA Research and Development Division Chief John Christensen, the results of the evaluation will aid in determining the viability of hydrogen use in reducing America's dependency on foreign oil, coal and petroleum.

"We expect this project to support the development of the hydrogen economy

while demonstrating the value of fuel cells in today's military support operations," said Christensen.

The data from the project will allow researchers to compare costs and operational characteristics that will be used to support the development of hydrogen fuel cell technology to be used by DOD, and ultimately by the general public.

"We will share the information we gather from this pilot with government researchers working to develop hydrogen technology for consumption on a larger scale," said Christensen.

Navy Capt. Jim Naber, DDSP Commanding Officer, sees tremendous potential in the study. "I just can't express how pleased I am that DDSP was selected as the first site involved in the hydrogen fuel cell project," Naber said.

"I see it as an opportunity to promote both national security and environmental stewardship," he added.

The pilot is expected to bring operational advantages as well.

"The batteries we use in the forklifts today last about eight hours. With the hydrogen fuel cells, we're looking at about 24 hours of use," said Naber.

Naber also cited rapid refueling as a benefit of the new technology. "Instead of waiting hours for a battery to recharge, a fuel cell can be refueled in just a few minutes."

If the hydrogen fuel technology is adopted by DDSP, the center could have more room for storage as well, a welcome idea in an environment where space is precious.

"If the battery charging locations are no longer needed, that could free up a considerable amount of space that could be used for storage," Naber said.

According to Christensen, DDSP represents the first in a series of pilot projects to demonstrate the use of hydrogen fuel cells in the forklifts that move vital supplies to America's military.

Two additional sites in the Defense Distribution Center's worldwide network, Defense Distribution Depots San Joaquin, Calif., and Warner Robins, Ga., are also scheduled to take part in future testing to explore hydrogen production, delivery and storage.

DDSP is the largest distribution center in the Department of Defense, responsible for shipping about a third of the items distributed by DLA each year. Each month, DDSP employees process more than 650,000 orders for millions of military supplies including repair parts, clothing, medical supplies, and electrical components.

5S technique improves productivity

By Annette Silva, DDJC Public Affairs

Sort, straighten, shine, standardize, and sustain – these five key elements can enhance any workspace by improving safety, quality, eliminating waste, and helping to raise productivity and morale.

During a recent Lean Foundations course that was taught at Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif., the 5S technique was put into action in one of DDJC's warehouses.

Students in the course learned that incorporating the 5S technique into work areas can result in a well-organized workplace that is clean and uncluttered in addition to being good stewards of taxpayer's money and adding value to the customer.

Using this technique not only improves cleanliness, it also that allows the workforce to organize a work area for maximum efficiency.

The students worked hands-on in the warehouse and to their amazement found materiel that was lost while they were organizing the area. The "found" materiel ranged from drill bits to lens covers. The bottom line is that this was mission stock that was lost and was not adding value to the customer – the war fighter.

The technique is simple and consists of the following:

Sort – the first step which allows the workforce to remove all items that are not needed for their current workplace processes, allowing a simplified work environment.



Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., a strategic military distribution platform, will be the first site used in the evaluation of hydrogen fuel cell technology by the Defense Logistics Agency's Research and Development Division. During the two-year evaluation, about 40 of the distribution center's forklifts will be retrofitted with hydrogen fuel cells similar to the one pictured.

Straighten – the essential materials are organized and labeled to help the workers quickly find materials by looking in the proper locations.

Shine – clean and inspect the work area.

Standardize – use the first three Ss to keep the workplace in order.

Sustain – perform regular checks to ensure the 5S is sustained.

Teresita Santos, a transportation assistant in Truck Control was excited about the 5S training she received. She appreciated that she was able to see and make a difference during the cleanup in the warehouse. She has already looked around her own office and found areas that needed to be organized and cleaned up.

“I was better able to perform my duties once the 5S Technique was implemented,” said Santos. “As a safety coordinator, I will be conducting a safety meeting tomorrow and will be including the elements of 5S at the meeting and will point out areas in the office that would benefit from 5S.”



Josephine Perena, left, and Yeo Kim, right, sort through supplies during the 5S exercise at Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif.

Virtual classroom puts safety training at supervisors' fingertips

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

Safety is crucial to the success of operations in any organization. So it's necessary for every organization to make safety training accessible to all employees and to standardize it so everyone gets the same training.

Jim Wood, a safety specialist at Defense Distribution Center headquarters, has been developing a page using the SharePoint Web site that has all the required safety training, and makes it easily accessible for supervisors.

“The primary purpose of developing this page is to ensure employees are trained and that the best people to train them, their supervisors, have the tools they need,” Wood said.

The page, which can be found by going to the DDC SharePoint Web site and following the links to the Environmental,

Safety and Occupational Health page and then clicking on the link to Safety, provides supervisors an easily accessible source for safety training and information. Once at the page, supervisors can access the training files by clicking on the training folder.

The training files include everything from formal presentation on required training topics to five- and seven-minute “tailgate” training designed for supervisors to give their employees during short breaks.

In addition to a variety of training formats, the site provides numerous training topics, ranging from Biting and Stinging Insects to information about the hazards of asbestos and everything in between.

“We wanted to give supervisors the option to choose a training format that fits their particular needs,” Wood said. “Additionally, everyone can access the

training regardless of their location.”

Accessibility is important to an organization with employees at 26 distribution centers in nine different time zones. No matter what time it is in Florida, Korea, Germany or Kuwait, a supervisor can go to the site and find the safety training they need.

Having all the training on one site has two other benefits. First, it ensures that everyone is receiving the same training. Second, it reduces costs by eliminating the need to mail training manuals, safety posters, etc., to each organization. Those items are also available on the site and can be printed locally, eliminating the need for costly package delivery.

Another advantage Wood cites is that when changes or updates to training requirements are published he goes to the site and updates

the appropriate file, which ultimately updates the training for all the subordinate organizations—a much more efficient way of updating the training than having to mail updated material to each of the 26 sites.

Feedback from the field has been positive.

“I am really pleased that this is available now,” said Gina Plarisan, a Safety and Occupational Health specialist at Defense Distribution Depot Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. “In the past I’ve had trouble getting the necessary training materials due to the time difference.”

Plarisan, who says she has already used several training programs from the

site, is also pleased with the variety of class lengths and formats that Wood has added. The different formats allow her to tailor training to her specific needs and time constraints.

For his part, Wood says he will continue to upgrade the site and even create training programs that meet specific requests from the field.

“If someone has a particular training requirement that we don’t have a program for, I will do the research and develop a class for them and then place it on the site,” Wood explained. “The goal is to make this as customer-friendly as possible.”



Louis Labrador, a distribution process worker at Defense Distribution Depot Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, takes a quiz about forklift safety. The quiz was part of a training program provided on the Defense Distribution Center's Sharepoint site for Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health. The site was developed to provide short, topical safety training for supervisors to provide to their workforce.

Safety training available on Web site

Stay current on electrical hazards

How to avoid electrical accidents

Preparing for emergency evacuations

Weather emergencies

Chemical hazard communication

Reduce your chemical exposure

Liquids, flammable and combustible

Safe lifting basics

Special lifting situations

Forklift safety

Loading dock safety

Crane and sling safety

Safety in the warehouse

Eye protection

Hearing protection

Hand safety

Foot protection

DDC HQ Security Specialist returns from the front lines

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Justin Bullard returned to work in July as a security specialist for the Defense Distribution Center after being called to active duty in Balad.

Bullard was called off the Army's Inactive Ready Reserve in December 2005 to serve as an Aviation Operations Specialist managing flight missions throughout Iraq.

He also volunteered as a part-time door gunner on Blackhawk helicopters.

Part of Bullard's mission was to assist with the movement of troops and civilians by air so they could avoid injury by explosives on the ground.

Although he says the work was difficult and became dangerous at times, the job had its advantages. "It made me feel like I was really helping those guys."

Bullard's teammates in the Defense Logistics Agency Enterprise Support Security division at DDC are glad to have him back. "Not only is his commitment to our mission unwavering, but he's also a very positive, upbeat person – a true asset to the team," commended Security Chief Sharon Heiner.

Bullard served in the Army from 1999 to 2001 when he took a security specialist position in Washington, D.C., working for the Navy.

"Being a Soldier is a life

experience I'll carry with me forever," Bullard said.



Security Specialist Justin Bullard, Defense Distribution Center, was called back to active duty in December 2005 to assist with the movement of troops and civilians by air so they could avoid injury by explosives on the ground.



Security Specialist Justin Bullard, Defense Distribution Center, in his flight gear. Bullard was called back to active duty in December 2005.

Defense Distribution Center employee heads back to Iraq

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

A Defense Distribution Center employee who is a member of the Maryland National Guard, returned to Iraq for a second deployment in September.

Dennis Amrhein, a member of the DDC's Asset Accountability Team, deployed to Iraq, this time with the 1st Battalion, of the 158th Cavalry Regiment of the Maryland National Guard.

Amrhein, returned to Iraq barely a year after

coming home in June 2006 from his first deployment to the war-torn country. He was an employee of Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., when he was first deployed in 2005 for an 18-month deployment.

Amrhein expected this deployment to be a little different from the previous one when interviewed prior to deploying.

"The area that I'll be working in is the western part of Baghdad," Amrhein said. "Last time I was in Ramadi, Al Anbar Province, which was considered the 'bad lands.'"

During Amrhein's first trip to Iraq, he was a member of a Long Range Surveillance/Sniper Team, which is his primary military occupational specialty.

During that first deployment he, and his team, were sent out on several missions to set up surveillance posts to gather information. As is common in war, situations can change with little notice and a surveillance mission can turn into a combat mission. Amrhein's actions during that first deployment earned him several decorations including the Bronze Star with Valor, the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Army Commendation Medal.



Staff Sgt. Dennis Amrhein, an employee of the Defense Distribution Center Asset Accountability Team, in Al Anbar province in Iraq Aug. 8, 2005. Amrhein returned to Iraq for a second deployment in September with the 158th Cavalry Regiment of the Maryland National Guard.

He didn't believe he would see the same kind of action during this deployment. While he did expect to see combat, he expected to spend more time in vehicles since he deployed with a cavalry unit.

"I believe this mission will include more mounted combat patrols in Humvees," he said.

Despite the obvious hardships he knew he would endure while in Iraq, Amrhein thinks deployments are just as hard on the families who remain behind.

"It is important to recognize the families of service



Staff Sgt. Dennis Amrhein sites in with an M24 sniper rifle while in Iraq in January of 2006. He returned to Iraq for a second deployment in September with the 158th Cavalry Regiment of the Maryland National Guard.

members who take care of the important, day-to-day (stuff) on the home front,” Amrhein said. “I can’t praise my wife Sherry enough. She handles things so well and that allows me to stay focused on my mission.”

DDAA’s Turner named DDC Employee of the Quarter

Defense Distribution Depot Anniston, Ala., Material Examiner and Identifier Renna Turner was named Defense Distribution Center Employee of the Quarter, third quarter, fiscal year 2007.

“Renna is a US Air Force veteran, and she has brought her knowledge and skill of the logistics field with her,” said John Strickland, DDAA Distribution Process Worker Supervisor. “Everyday, she is constantly seeking knowledge and a complete desire for mission accomplishment. I can give her an assignment and without question, she jumps right on it. I have yet to hear her complain about anything.”

Turner comes to work ready for mission accomplishment, Strickland said. She works hard every day. Recently Turner exceeded Strickland’s goal on container unloading and content identification.

“Renna Turner is an asset and a vital employee of this organization, DDAA, and DLA as a whole,” Strickland said. “She believes in the DLA mission and I have no doubt that she will excel in her future with DDAA.”

Fritz selected as DLA Employee of the Quarter

“Laura has been working on two complex projects during this nomination period and her performance has been superb,” said James McCormack, Defense Distribution Center Logistics Operations Support Operations Branch Chief. She has been instrumental in developing the overarching Concept of Operation for the Joint Regional Inventory Material Management program, or JRIMM, and she has help develop critical initiatives associated with the DDC’s Pacific Command assessment.

Since taking over as the DDC lead for JRIMM in early April, Fritz has been diligently working with DLA staff, the services, and internal DDC personnel to clearly define distribution facility and information technology requirements to posture DDC for success when JRIMM rolls out in fiscal year 2008.

Fritz has played a major role in developing the overarching JRIMM concept of operations, McCormack said. She continues to orchestrate requirements for the staff and distribution facilities to include stock positioning, policy, transportation, and

information operations to ensure DDC as an organization is aware of JRIMM requirements.

Fritz has also been a valuable member of the Pacific Command assessment team.

She analyzed the distribution processes used in the Pacific with the intent of improving the efficiency and effectiveness where possible.

She recently completed work that established a Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point at DDC’s distribution center in Korea, Defense Distribution Depot Korea, which will support the war fighter by streamlining how air pallets and

containers are routed and processed in the Korean theater.

According to McCormack, Fritz possesses a professional work ethic and an easygoing personality that has enabled her to effectively interact with peers, supervisors, DLA staff, and customers as she coordinates the planning for these projects.

Fritz’s dedication to duty, and attention to detail have allowed operational managers to focus on operational mission issues and feel confident that the planning for these initiatives will be properly conducted.



Laura Fritz of the Defense Distribution Center’s Logistics Operations Division.

DDC team of the quarter for the third quarter of fiscal year 2007

Name of team: Deployable
Distribution Center (DDXX)

Team members:

Lt. Col. Eugene Summers,
U.S.M.C., DDC

Marc Parsons, Commander,
DDC

Donald Hernandez, DDJC

Pete Halseth, deputy
commander, DDDK

Chris Dunsmore, deputy
commander, DLA-P

Bradford Sims, DDC

Scott Woosley, DDC

Sgt. 1st Class Eric Rivers,
USA, DDC

Walton Evans, Distribution
Process Supervisor

Wayne Butler, Distribution
Process Supervisor

Jocelito Olega, Distribution
Process Supervisor

Melvin Tagata, Distribution
Process Leader

Martha Eddy, Administrative
Assistant

Laticia Jones, Supply Systems
Analyst

Cora Guthrie, Supply Systems
Analyst

Andrei Mallari, Transportation
Assistant

DDKS' Broadway named DDC Employee of the Quarter

Roudy Broadway, Deputy Commander, Defense Distribution Depot Kuwait Southwest Asia, or DDKS, was named Defense Distribution Center DLA Employee of the Quarter, third quarter, fiscal year 2007.

"Roudy delivers consistently exceptional performance while serving as the Deputy and Contracting Officer for two DLA multi-million dollar operations in the Central Command area of responsibility, a designated combat zone in support of the Global War on Terror," said Army Col.

Gloria Blake, then DDKS Commander. DDKS and the Theater Consolidation Shipping Point, or TCSP, are both forward deployed operations providing sustainment support for more than 300,000 U.S. and Coalition forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Bahrain and the Horn of Africa.

While serving as the DDKS Deputy Command and Contracting Officer's Representative for both DDKS and the TCSP, Broadway's leadership, logistical expertise and CENTCOM theater experience help ensure continuous support to the war fighter, said Blake. Noteworthy during this recent surge of troops is how he managed both operations daily, giving his own time to ensure mission

success without complaint. Both operations under his supervision have exceeded all standards established by DLA and received nothing but praise from visitors and superiors.

Since his arrival, Broadway has proven he is the right person for this job through his exceptional leadership and execution of all his duties, Blake said. He has proven invaluable in providing acquisition guidance, leadership and support to both DDKS and TCSP personnel, ensuring contract compliance and mission success.

Lastly, working with contractors requires a person with integrity beyond reproach, knowledge of all ethics rules, and encyclopedic knowledge of the contract – Roudy Broadway is that person.



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Enterprise news at <https://today.dla.mil>

Team recognized for capability to extend the enterprise

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center's Deployable Distribution Center team was selected as DDC's Team of the Quarter for the third quarter of fiscal year 2007 in recognition of their ability to establish a distribution capability anywhere in the world at a moment's notice.

The Deployable Distribution Center team traveled to Korea in April and May of 2007 as part of a two-week Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration and Limited User Evaluation to assess its ability to respond effectively and quickly in the event of natural disasters or military contingencies.

The demonstration was sponsored by the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Advanced Systems and Concepts.

This is a critical capability, necessary to the success of contingency operations, according to Marc Parsons, commander of the Deployable Distribution Center.

"In those emergency situations, the responders need to have an almost immediate logistic support capability," Parsons said. His team can be on site and ready to process cargo in a matter of days.



Donnie Hernandez, left, lead supervisor for the Deployable Distribution Center, explains how the center and its Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point work to a contingent of logistics Marines who visited the deployable center during its limited user evaluation in Korea in April and May of 2007.

The team's accomplishments while in Korea led to its selection as the team of the quarter, according to Parsons.



Stewart Walker, left, Michael Leon, center, and Karson Beal, right, distribution process workers with the Deployable Distribution Center, discuss the proper packing procedures for an air pallet during the center's limited user evaluation in Korea in April and May 2007.



Stanley Walker uses a forklift to pick up a pallet for placement on a delivery truck. Walker and the other members of the Deployable Distribution Center team were selected as the Defense Logistics Agency's Large Team of the Year for their work in Korea during the deployable center's limited user evaluation in April and May 2007.

Thelmo Santos, Transportation Assistant

Vincent Garcia, Motor Vehicle Operator

Wayne Anders, Distribution Process Worker

Daniel Avitia, Distribution Process Worker

Karson Beal, Distribution Process Worker

Norvel Burton, Distribution Process Worker

Frank Gomez, Distribution Process Worker

Leo Jasper, Distribution Process Worker

Wayne Lewis, Distribution Process Worker

Michael Leon, Distribution Process Worker

Jose Lombrana, Distribution Process Worker

Pete Ramirez, Distribution Process Worker

Robert Serrato, Distribution Process Worker

Matthew Ung, Distribution Process Worker

Stanley Walker, Distribution Process Worker

Stewart Walker, Distribution Process Worker

Shawn Pressley, IT Specialist

Won Hyong Chon, Administrative Assistant

Andrew Walls, Transportation
Management Specialist

Randy Buckley, Transportation
Management Specialist

Mike Krause, IT Specialist

Terrence Perry, IT Specialist

Terry Wilkinson, IT Specialist

Malcom Wertz, IT Specialist

Cathy Martin, IT Specialist

Denise Meyers, IT Specialist

Kim Shirilla, IT Specialist

Mike Sorrels, Supervisor IT
Specialist

Justin North, Supervisor IT
Specialist

Randall Allmon, IT Specialist,
Contractor

Carl Henning, IT Specialist,
Contractor

John Smith, Contractor,
DORRA (TAF)

Dan Patton, IT Specialist,
Contractor

Tony Hawkins, DLA Customer
Advocate

Levi Shields, Project Lead

John Schneider,
Communications Lead

Travis Hayes, Technical
Support

Reservists commended by DDRV for support

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Navy reservists from Defense Distribution Center Reserve Unit Detachment A-106 out of New Cumberland, Pa., recently assisted Defense Distribution Depot Richmond, Va., with A-76 preparation efforts.

The reservists from A-106 are no strangers to distribution operations. Their drills are typically held at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., in New Cumberland, Pa., the largest distribution center in the Department of Defense.

“They were really a great group and made a significant contribution to our efforts to prepare for the A-76 decision,” praised DDRV Director Jerri Taylor.

The group of reservists helped to relocate tens of thousands of items, including hazardous material, closer to shipping areas so it could be issued more rapidly.

They also sorted and labeled stock so it could be placed on the shelf and ready for issue to the war fighter.

“They finished a job in two weeks that would otherwise take months to complete,” said DDRV Site Manager Steve Thien.

Thien was also impressed with the crew’s expertise and efficiency. “They were so capable and skilled – as if they had been working here for years.”

The A-76 process includes a competition that determines the best value for the taxpayer by examining the benefits of retaining distribution mission work in-house or contracting the work out to a private sector source.

At the conclusion of the A-76 competition in September, it was announced that the functions performed at DDRV would be transferred to a private sector provider.



Navy reservists from Defense Distribution Center Detachment A-106 with employees of Defense Distribution Depot Richmond, Va. The reservists assisted DDRV with a re-warehousing project.

DDC welcomes new Air Force IMA advisor

By Jose Abreu, DDC Reserve/Mobilization Office

The Defense Distribution Center recently welcomed its newest member of the Air Force Individual Mobilization Augmentee, or IMA, Program, Air Force Lt. Col. Terry L. Witt.

Witt will serve as Air Force advisor on all IMA program matters and Officer in Charge of the Reserve Crisis Action Team for the DDC Reserve/Mobilization Office.

"I'm here to serve, listen, and act," Witt said. "I will work diligently to make the DDC IMA Program a model for the Air Force and train the Crisis Action Team to provide

agile distribution operations support worldwide."

The Air Force IMA program is made up of more than 13,000 Individual Mobilization Augmentees. DDC's IMAs train on an individual basis and are assigned a supervisor at one of DDC's 26 distribution centers. IMAs were used extensively during Operation Desert Storm and continue to support Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Crisis Action Team, or CAT, consists of a group of approximately 20 reservists who have Annual Training that can be used in the event of a disaster or activation by the DDC Commander. Inactive Duty Training for CAT members is geared to making the CAT ready to support the Deployable Distribution Center or other DLA/DDC tasks related to a

contingency operation.

"Lt Col Witt's vast experience as a logistician, plans and readiness officer and selfless service for our war fighters make her the right person for the job," said Sue Alpaugh, Chief, Reserve/Mobilization Office. "Her extraordinary energy level, enthusiasm and deep understanding of our mission are unparalleled."

The DDC Reserve/Mobilization Office is required to recruit, train, and maintain 132 Emergency Essential personnel and 181 Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines Reservists ready to deploy to any environment, including hostile locales to support contingencies, emergencies, military exercises, and domestic disaster relief efforts.

Anyone interested in participating in a contingency mission is encouraged



Air Force Lt. Col. Terry L. Witt will serve as Air Force advisor on all Individual Mobilization Augmentees Program matters. She will also serve as Officer in Charge of the Reserve Crisis Action Team for the DDC Reserve/Mobilization Office.

to contact the Defense Distribution Center Reserve/Mobilization Office at 717-770-6166 or by e-mail at DDC.Mobilization@dla.mil. Committed and enthusiastic civilians, reservists or active duty military will be well trained and ready to deploy around the world.

DDC Commander announces coin contest winner

Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan, employee receives cash award for entry



James Thompson, Industrial Equipment Mechanic at Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan, submitted the winning design.

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Army Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, commander, Defense Distribution Center announced the winner of the DDC Coin Contest August 24. James Thompson, an industrial equipment mechanic at Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan, received a cash award for his entry.



The winning entry.

"I thank everyone who submitted designs for the contest. I am very impressed by the talent of our workforce," Collyar said.

The winning design was selected from nearly 70 entries created by DDC employees from all over the world.

DDWG's Transportation Officer graduates program

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Janice Griffin, Transportation Officer for Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga., or DDWG, recently graduated from the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Supply and Transportation Fellows Program.

The program is a year-long, hands-on leadership development program designed to enhance the career development of selected mid-level logistics professionals, by providing them with significant headquarters-level experience.

"The Fellows Program has been an enriching experience for me," Griffin said. "I gained insight into how the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the military services, defense agencies, and joint committees develop and implement supply chain and transportation policy."

While assigned to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Transportation Policy and Office of the Secretary of Defense for Supply Chain Integration, Griffin completed a number

of critical research projects and participated in high-level working groups that helped shape Department of Defense policy and improve DoD transportation and supply chain management.

Griffin coordinated with initiative leads on the Supply Chain Management High Risk Plan and developed a process to provide timely input. She researched and supported two important Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation cases regarding visibility of materiel outside the Defense Transportation System and duty-free provisions under Status-of-Forces Agreements for service type contracts.

During her tour at Headquarters Defense Logistics Agency she led an effort to resolve Foreign Military Sales issues at Consolidation and Containerization Points and aerial ports. Her recommendations led to significant

improvement in the FMS shipment process and procedures that were incorporated into the DLA One Book.

"My assignment at DLA Headquarters afforded me the unique opportunity to contribute my input on policy and procedures that will directly effect distribution center operations as well as DoD transportation policy," said Griffin.

Griffin completed her year with an assignment to the United States Transportation Command supporting the DOD Families First Program. Her systems contract transitions efforts contributed greatly to the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command's relocation to Scott Air Force Base.

Griffin has more than 27 years of transportation experience and has served as the Transportation Officer at DDWG since December 2004. Prior to attending the program Griffin helped with the initial planning for DDWG's

transition to a strategic distribution platform.

Since returning to DDWG, Griffin has resumed her role as the DDWG Transportation Officer, managing the distribution center's transportation and traffic management programs in support of Robins Air Force Base Air Logistics Center and the military services worldwide. She is heavily involved in the planning and staffing of the Transportation Division as DDWG transitions from a contractor-operated to a government-operated depot.

"With the many opportunities facing DDWG in our transition to a government workforce and eventually into an SDP," Griffin said, "I gladly accept these opportunities with the understanding that my efforts are in alignment with the DLA Enterprise Strategic Plan."



Janice Griffin, center, transportation officer, Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga., receives her graduation certificate from Alan Estevez, right, Principal Assistant Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Material Readiness and Earl Boyanton, left, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Transportation Policy. Griffin recently graduated from the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Supply and Transportation Fellows Program.

DDC Aide-de-Camp promoted to rank of Captain

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center's Aide-de-camp, Jonathan Emery was promoted to Captain, United States Army, Nov 1. Presiding Officer for the event was DDC Chief of Staff Army Col. Perry Knight.

Brenda Emery had the honor of pinning the rank on her husband's uniform.

Emery, a native of Orlando, Fla. entered active duty in January 1996 in Ft. Jackson, S.C.

His past assignments include Electronic Maintenance Section, Maintenance Troop, Regimental Support Squadron, 2nd ACR; Electronic Maintenance Section, 546th Maintenance Company, 142D Corps Support Battalion, Warrior Brigade; Assistant Facility Manager CP Oscar, under the S-3 U.S. Army Troop Command-Korea, Taegu, Korea; Non-commissioned Officer in Charge, Electronic Maintenance Section, 178th Maintenance Company, 2-1 Air Defense Artillery Battalion, 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade; Instructor/ Writer for 35N Wire Systems Equipment Repair, 35F Special Electronic Device Repair and 35J Computer and Automation Repair Courses, 73d Ordnance Battalion, 59th Ordnance Brigade, Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance Department, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School. While stationed at Ft. Carson, Colo., Emery served as a Platoon leader for the Automotive Maintenance Platoon. In addition, he served as the Maintenance Control Officer and Company Executive Officer for the 183d Maintenance Company, 68th Combat Service Support Battalion, 43d Area Support Group.

In addition to his tours stateside, Emery has deployed to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Guard and to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Southern Watch.

Emery has served as DDC's Aide-de-Camp since December 2006.



Brenda Emery pins captain's bars on her husband's, uniform Nov. 1. Captain Jonathan Emery is the aide-de-camp for the Defense Distribution Center Commander, Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar.

Military Personnel Office Soldier promoted



Army Sgt. 1st Class Sandy Maldonado, who works in the Defense Distribution Center's Military Personnel Office, was promoted to her present rank in a ceremony held at DDC headquarters June 28. During the ceremony attended by Soldiers and civilians from Carlisle Barracks, Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., and DDC headquarters, Maldonado was thanked for the contributions she has made to each of the organizations since she arrived at DDC in February 2006.

DDC Deputy Commander praises DDRT workforce on 10 years of service

DDRT continues to save money, provide world-class support to customers

By Stacy Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

In a recent visit to Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, Defense Distribution Center Deputy Commander, Twila Gonzales, Senior Executive Service, congratulated the DDRT workforce for their distribution support to the war fighter and to DDC.

"As you know, DDC celebrated 10 years of distribution excellence on Oct. 1, and DDRT has certainly been instrumental in our success in providing world-class distribution support to our war fighters," said Gonzales.

In the past 10 years, DDRT has reengineered processes and streamlined for greater efficiencies. This included establishing a distribution operations center, increasing efficiency of operations and providing capacity for storage in excess of 200,000 line items.

Additionally, upon completion of the construction of an automated and mechanized Preservation, Packaging, Pack and Marking, or PPP&M, project with a track preservation system, DDRT increased productivity by more than 90 percent with an estimated savings of \$200,000 annually.

DDRT designed, assembled and fielded a multi-million dollar fuel system supply point; the first was used in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

DDRT established a consolidation and containerization bypass point to help alleviate bottlenecks at other DDC consolidation and containerization points to support Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. DDRT shipped an average of 300 air pallets a week and 30 sea containers of repair parts into theater.

Partnering with Red River Army Depot, DDRT increased distribution of tactical, combat and trailer mounted vehicles to more than 20,000 units annually for the U.S. Army and Marine Corps.

Reimbursable projects increased to more than 1,200 valued at over \$100 million dollars, generating more than \$22 million dollars in revenue annually.

After the devastation of the hurricane season of 2005, DDC established a deployable capability inside the U.S.

"You helped to establish DDC's deployable capability in a mere five months. As a result, our deployable personnel are trained and ready to deploy anywhere in the United States to perform distribution operations in support of a disaster and we are now expanding this capability worldwide," Gonzales said.

While the mission is priority, safety is always first at DDRT. Establishing a Safety Bucks store, employees can redeem safety bucks earned for their good safety practices. Employees have a safer working environment and can receive items branded with the DDRT logo – showing DDRT's pride through performance.

"You've worked very hard and have earned the trust of the customer; so much so that the program manager for the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles support program has called on DDRT to support this important mission," said Gonzales.

Gonzales concluded, "You continue to answer the call, no matter what it is, and on behalf of General Collyar and the staff of the DDC, I thank you for your 10 years of distribution excellence and I am confident that the next 10 years will be even more successful."



Senior Executive Twila Gonzales, deputy commander, Defense Distribution Center, addresses the staff and employees of Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas. Gonzales visited DDRT to thank the workforce for their support to America's war fighters and DDC over the last ten years.

DDOO woodworkers recognized by Tinker Air Force Base

By Diana Tow, DDOO Public Affairs, and Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Woodworkers from the Defense Distribution Depot Oklahoma City, Okla., were named Team of the Month for September 2007 by the Tinker Air Force Base Management Association for their skills in building a specialized container for a high priority aircraft wing shipment destined for Altus AFB, Okla.

Members of the DDOO woodworking team include Jeff McGuire, Gary Eisenhour, Rick Henn, Larry Dalton, Donnie Wingate and Dale Blarney. During the recognition ceremony, each member received a cash award and a certificate of appreciation.

"The team worked tirelessly, and amid many obstacles, fabricated all the pieces required for the assembly," said Normal Welch, chief, Preservation, Packaging, Packing and Marking.

The Tinker AFB Management Association includes military and civilian employees charged to promote, organize and conduct activities to enhance the professionalism of public administrators assigned to Tinker AFB.



The Defense Distribution Depot Oklahoma City, Okla., woodworking team includes, from left to right, Jeff McGuire, Gary Eisenhour, Rick Henn, Larry Dalton, Dustin Gore representing Donnie Wingate who could not attend, and Dale Barney.

Lucio named DDPW Employee of the Quarter



Susan Lucio, right, is congratulated on her selection as Defense Distribution Depot Puget Sound, Wash.'s Employee of the Quarter, by Navy Cmdr. Bill Bailey, commander, DDPW. Lucio is an information technology technician and was selected for her management of DDPW's shelf life quality control checks program.

Susan Lucio, an information technology technician at Defense Distribution Depot Puget Sound, Wash., was named DDPW's Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of fiscal year 2007.

Lucio handles technical hardware and computer needs at DDPW.

"Susan's attention to detail and ability to work well with team members is second to none," commented Navy Cmdr. Bill Bailey, commander, DDPW.

According to Bailey, Lucio is a highly motivated employee, who takes on the shelf life weekly quality control check to ensure continued 100 percent compliancy.

"Her commitment is solid, and she does what it takes to keep us operational," he said.

DDC Chief of Staff gives local Lions Club glimpse of installation's past

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

In honor of Veterans Day, Defense Distribution Center Chief of Staff Army Col. Perry Knight described the support provided by the Defense Distribution Center installation in New Cumberland, Pa., since World War I to members of a local Lions Club Nov. 13.

According to Knight, the installation's rich history includes serving as a camp for German prisoners of war during World War II, an aircraft maintenance facility during Vietnam, the site of the largest warehouse in the Department of Defense, and the location of the Defense Distribution Center headquarters.

"The installation in New Cumberland had humble beginnings, but over time the mission has grown," said Knight. "Today, we have a profound global impact."

In support of the War on Terrorism, said Knight, the distribution network overseen by DDC headquarters has shipped more than 20 million orders to America's war fighters.

Knight also described the

installation's economic impact on the community – infusing nearly \$300 million into the local economy each year and providing about 3,000 jobs.

Knight contributed the success of the installation to the loyal, patriotic workforce, "Just like the Lions Club, our people are the backbone for everything we do."

DDC's global network of 26 distribution centers employs nearly 8,000 people worldwide. For more than a decade, DDC has been offering best value supply chain solutions through a broad range of services including storage, distribution, customized kits,

and specialized packaging as well as transportation support and technology development. DDC's customers include the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and other agencies. DDC is a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency.



Defense Distribution Center Chief of Staff Army Col. Perry Knight describes the support provided by the Defense Distribution Center installation in New Cumberland, Pa., from World War I to the War on Terrorism to members of the Harrisburg, Pa., Lions Club Nov. 13.



The Defense Distribution Center installation in New Cumberland, Pa., has supported every major conflict since 1918 including World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, and the War on Terrorism.

DDSP remembers America's POW/MIA

By Sherre Mitten-Bell, DDSP Public Affairs

Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., paid tribute to America's prisoners of war and missing in action when it hosted a POW/MIA Recognition Day observance Sept. 21.

"My heart goes out to those who still wait for answers," said Ruth Stonesifer, the keynote speaker for the celebration and president of the Pennsylvania Department of Gold Star Mothers "I know that the six days waiting for my son's body to land on U.S. soil seemed like an eternity. I cannot imagine a lifetime of not knowing."

Stonesifer's son, Spec. Kristofor Stonesifer, an Army Ranger, died in a Black Hawk helicopter crash the first night of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan in 2001. Gold Star Mothers became one of Stonesifer's lifelines after her son's death.



Keynote speaker Ruth Stonesifer shares the story of her son Army Ranger Krisofor Stonesifer who was one of the first military personnel killed in action in Afghanistan following the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

"I realized I was one in a long line of mothers from the American Revolution to the present—mothers who have watched their sons and daughters go into harm's way to protect our freedom," said Stonesifer who will become the national president of Gold Star Mothers in 2009. "I knew I was in excellent company, the mothers of the American Soldier."

The American Gold Star Mothers was established to recognize the mother of a U.S. pilot who was missing in action during World War I. The organization supports many veteran-related services and projects. A local "Hometown Heroes" project, coordinated by Stonesifer, was exhibited in Harrisburg, Pa.. Large street banners displayed the names and faces of 137 service members from Pennsylvania, indicating when and where they were killed in action.

In addition to employees and tenants of the New Cumberland, Pa., installation, several family members of

military personnel who have been listed as missing in action attended the ceremony. Among them was Nancy Kiefel, the wife of a local Air Force lieutenant colonel who has been missing in action since 1966. During the ceremony, Kiefel was presented with a white rose by Army 1st Sgt. Wade S. Greene. Kiefel's tears reflected the emotions of many in the crowd.

Navy Cmdr. Emery Kutney, executive officer, DDSP, presided over the ceremony. During the ceremony, Kutney and Colleen Freedman, the president of the local American Legion Auxiliary, laid a wreath near the installation's POW/MIA memorial stone. The ceremony ended with "Taps" played by a local bagpiper.



Navy Cmdr. Emery Kutney, executive officer, Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., and Colleen Freedman, president of the local American Legion Auxiliary, place a wreath next to the installation's POW/MIA Memorial Stone.



The POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony begins with the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., Army Riggers presenting the colors while employee Brenda Cammack sings the National Anthem.



A long-stemmed white rose is presented to Nancy Kiefel by Army 1st Sgt. Wade Greene in memory of her husband. Kiefel's husband, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, has been listed as missing since 1966.

Group raises money to help cancer patients

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

A group of employees and family members from Defense Distribution Center headquarters recently raised more than \$1,200 for Hearts-N-Hands, a charity organization that helps terminally ill cancer patients.

Laura Blubaugh, who worked in the DDC Distribution Re-engineering office, read about another group that was doing a hike for charity and it piqued her interest. An avid hiker, she decided to organize a hike with fellow co-workers to raise money for the charity.

Deciding which charity to support was the next step.

Blubaugh researched several larger charities, but "... things were not coming together." Then a co-worker told her about Heart-N-Hands.

"Having lost a sister five years ago to cancer, I was more than happy to select



Employees from Defense Distribution Center headquarters recently hiked a stretch of the Appalachian Trail with family members to raise money for Hearts-N-Hands, a charity that helps terminally ill cancer patients. Pictured above, from left to right, are Ed Gallagher, Dee DeLorenzo, Josh Dodson, Laura Blubaugh, Robert Dodson, Lisa Miller, Emily Blubaugh, Stephanie Pasenelli, Mike Pasenelli and Guillermo Rivera.

Hearts-N-Hands for the charity hike," Blubaugh said.

She then chose Aug. 4 as the day for the hike because it was her sister's birthday.

That day, Blubaugh, along with co-workers and family members, hit the Appalachian Trail and hiked 8.4 miles and raised \$1,272 to help people with cancer.

DDC celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 27 with a ceremony at the Susquehanna Club at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa.

The ceremony, which included speakers and a performance by a local Spanish dance company, recognized the contributions Hispanic Americans have made to our society.

Angel Garcia, the keynote speaker, is a Pennsylvania State Trooper and was appointed by Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell in 2006 to serve on the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs.

During his comments, Garcia told the audience about something that happened to him when he was 14. He was on his

way to his best friend's house when he noticed two Pennsylvania State Troopers trying to talk to his friend's mother.

The troopers didn't speak Spanish and the woman didn't speak English, so communication was difficult. When Garcia got closer the troopers asked if he could speak Spanish and when he said he did, they asked him to interpret for them.

At 14, Garcia had to tell the woman that her son, and Garcia's best friend, was dead.

"That's when I made it my goal to become a State Trooper," Garcia said.

Ten-year-old Jessica Crist, of Danzente Dance Company, dances the Zapateado during the Defense Distribution Center's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration Sept. 27.



Operation Thin Mint delivers the goods to USS Gary, USS McCampbell

By Tim Shannon, CFAY Public Affairs, and Jon Lontoc, DDYJ Public Affairs



Cmdr. Paul Bourgeois, left, commander, Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan, Ray Denny, center, of the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, and Jojhi Harada, right, a master labor contractor at DDYJ, ensure each of the 35,000 Girl Scout Cookies DDYJ received is accounted for. The cookies were delivered to regional commands as part of Operation Thin Mint which is aimed at improving the morale of service members deployed overseas by bringing them a little bit of Americana.

Army Materiel Command visits DDDK

By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Public Affairs

Representatives from Army Materiel Command visited Defense Distribution Depot Korea Oct. 18. The visit focused on DDDK's origins, accomplishments and future initiatives. AMC representatives included Rene Mosher, Dave Babin, and Rhonda Cunningham-Still.

Mosher, Babin and Cunningham-Still were impressed with the capabilities of DDDK's Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point. They also recognized the cost saving benefits of recycling blocking and bracing material from surface containers, better consolidation of freight at a single location, as well as better in-transit visibility.

DDDK is also working with another distribution center, Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif., to streamline how air pallets are being built to better use the pallets and reduce hold time. The collaboration allows DDJC to build more mixed pallets while DDDK can easily perform break-bulk service.

The team was also pleased that DDDK works so closely with customers to ensure the right items are stocked there.



Representatives from Army Materiel Command visited Defense Distribution Depot Korea Oct. 18. The visit focused on DDDK's origins, accomplishments and future initiatives. AMC representatives included Rene Mosher, Dave Babin, and Rhonda Cunningham-Still.

Expeditionary Sustainment commander visits DDDK

Army Brig. Gen. Xavier Lobeto, incoming commander, 19th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), or 19th ESC, visited Defense Distribution Depot Korea Sept. 6 with Army Lt. Col. Jim Fiscus, Korea commander for Defense Logistics Agency-Pacific.

DDDK's Deputy Commander, Pete Halseth led a tour of the facility and a discussion of DDDK capabilities, current theater distribution, and DDDK's participation in 19th ESC projects.



Army Brig. Gen. Xavier Lobeto, incoming commander, 19th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), or 19th ESC, visited Defense Distribution Depot Korea Sept. 6 with Army Lt. Col. Jim Fiscus, Korea commander for Defense Logistics Agency-Pacific.

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DLA vice director, DDC deputy commander visit DDMA

Air Force Maj. Gen. Arthur B. Morrill, vice director, Defense Logistics Agency, visited the Defense Distribution Mapping Activity in Richmond, Va., July 25.

Morrill visited DDMA as part of a sweeping tour of activities in the Richmond area.

Accompanied by Defense Supply Center Richmond Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Andrew Busch and Defense Distribution Center Deputy Commander Twila Gonzales, Senior Executive Service, Morrill received a walking tour of the facilities and met "Mapping Team" members from shipping and receiving, packing, selection, weigh and offer, and the classified processing center, or CPC.

Morrill spent much of the tour in the CPC as it is DLA's largest classified repository with more than 16,000 different products.

DDMA's CPC Supervisor, Eric Harcum proudly illustrated his future plans for continuous process improvements for Morrill.

"It is great to show the agency leadership how we do business," Harcum said. "The CPC alone is responsible for more than 175,000 lines of work per year, and the Vice Director demonstrated a real interest in how we ship the war fighter classified products."

Morrill was able to meet some of DDMA's item management partners from DSCR's Mapping Customer Operations, or MCO.

DDMA has the unique benefit of being located next door to their item managers. Navy Cmdr John Palmer, DDMA Commander, said the

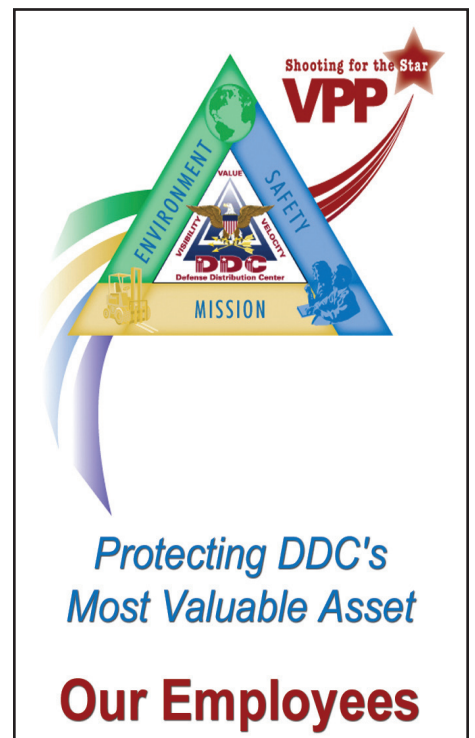


Navy Cmdr. John Palmer, right, commander Defense Distribution Mapping Activity, discusses operations with Air Force Maj. Gen. Arthur B. Morrill, vice director, Defense Logistics Agency. Morrill visited DDMA July 25 to see how DDMA processes maps for the war fighters.

synergy between DDMA and MCO is a key enabler to the activity's superb performance.

"We have DDC's fifth largest annual workload at 1.2 million lines with a small team of just over 160 worldwide," Palmer said. "Our job would be much more difficult were it not for the daily interaction we have with our item managers at DSCR. We're glad to show the Vice Director this exceptional partnership and how we work together to form the best strategies for support of the war fighters from our facilities here in Richmond and our nine Map Support Offices around the world."

As the Vice Director departed DDMA, he thanked the team for their service and encouraged them to "keep up the great work in support of our war fighters!"



Japanese ministry of defense representatives visit DDDC

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs Office

During their recent visit to San Diego, Calif., representatives of the Japanese ministry of defense stopped by the Defense Distribution Depot San Diego, Calif., or DDDC, for an overview of distribution operations and to gain a better understanding of the mission, organization and logistical support system of a Defense Logistics Agency distribution facility.

After a short meet and greet with U.S. Navy Capt. Walt Jacunski, commander of DDDC, Lt. Cmdr. Brent Hull, DDDC's Military Liaison Officer, took the visitors on a walking tour of the facility and explained to them how DDDC receives, stores and issues material to its customers. During the tour the representatives saw four mechanized warehouse areas, the receiving, shipping and local delivery areas, and the Material Processing Center.

"The representatives were impressed with the size and height of DDDC's warehouses," Hull said.

Located on Naval Base San Diego, DDDC is one of the most mechanized centers in DLA. DDDC performs standard distribution

operations to include Emergency Support Operations Center, receipt, store, ship, and issue, with related functions to include transshipment, preservation, packaging, packing, and marking, L1/SS Program, Care of Stock in Storage, and reclassification. As a part of this mission, DDDC provides tailored distribution services through the Material Processing Center, which serves as a centralized receipt activity for afloat customers in the San Diego area.

Items processed at the distribution center include depot-level reparable

items, electronics, hazardous material, ship and aviation repair parts, small boats and amphibious craft. DDDC predominately handles Navy owned and managed material.

Among DDDC's primary customers are the home-ported ships in San Diego and the major shore commands representing all services, one of the Navy's largest repair facilities, Fleet Readiness Center Southwest, Southwest Regional Maintenance Center, and other smaller activities in the southwestern United States.



Representatives of the Japanese Ministry of Defense view distribution operations at Defense Distribution Depot San Diego, Calif.

Egyptian Delegation, U.S. Army representatives visit DDRT

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Members of the Egyptian Army visited Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, Oct. 31, to perform a Joint Visual Inspection of M2 and M3 Basic Bradley Fighting Vehicles in storage at DDRT.

The visit is part of the Foreign Military Sales process led by the U.S. Army.

During the visit, the team met with DDRT Commander Army Lt. Col. Steven Toft and key members of the DDRT staff. The team inspected more than 500 vehicles for possible procurement by the Egyptian Army.

"The inspection process went very well and the team was pleased with the results. It was a bit of a challenge to inspect the large quantity of vehicles in such a short timeframe, but they successfully accomplished their mission," said Linda Matthews, DDRT Production Controller.

Accompanying the Egyptian Army visitors were JVI team members, representatives of the Office of Military Cooperation, U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command, U.S. Army Materiel Command and BAE Systems.



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Steven Toft, left, commander, Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas, presents a plaque to Egyptian Army Brig. Gen. Mohame Hasan Elnemr. Elnemr visited DDRT Oct. 31 to inspect more than 500 Bradley Fighting Vehicles that the Egyptian Army is considering purchasing.

U.S. Army Ordnance Center Officers visit DDC

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Members of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland visited the Defense Distribution Center headquarters and Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., in New Cumberland, Pa., to see how the organizations provide support to America's war fighters.

The officers toured DDSP's Eastern Distribution Center, the largest distribution facility in the Department of Defense, where they observed receiving operations, consolidation and containerization point processing, air line of communication pallet build and high rise storage and retrieval system.

Upon conclusion of the tour, DDC Commander Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar met with the officers to discuss military careers and logistics in today's joint environment. "When you graduate this course and prepare for your next tour, you will become more 'joint' than you have ever been in your career,"



U.S. Army Ordnance Center Officers pose with DDC commander, Brig. Gen. Collyar (Second row, second from left) Photo by: Sherre Mitten-Bell, DDSP Public Affairs

said Collyar. Collyar then fielded questions and talked about his rise through the ranks.

The group also received an overview

of DDC, its distribution network, mission and initiatives.

Ordnance Center students visit DDC as part of their curriculum.

Do you have a suggestion for the editor?

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